SERI
ETH Council
ETH Zurich
Public Figures and Media Representatives

Report regarding potential violations at ETH Zurich of Ordinance SR 946.231.176.72 and applicable criminal provisions (Part 1)

I wish to draw your attention to activities by a group of ETH employees who organized fundraising campaigns and arranged the brokering, procurement, and shipment of military-related and dual-use equipment to military end users in Ukraine, which raise serious concerns about compliance with the Ordinance on Measures in Connection with the Situation in Ukraine (SR 946.231.176.72). Available indications suggest that some of these activities took place during ETH working hours, which suggests the possible use of ETH premises and resources and raises the question of whether they can be regarded as purely private conduct. ETH's administration has been publicly associated with the organization created by members of this group, the Ukrainian Association of Students and Academics in Zurich (UASAZ), in particular by providing venues on ETH premises for UASAZ-organized events. In parallel with promoting a Ukraine-focused agenda through UASAZ events, the group conducted fundraising for the Ukrainian Armed Forces. It is documented that some of their fundraising campaigns were carried out on behalf of Ukrainian military units that uphold neo-Nazi ideology and have been implicated in war crimes against civilians. Many members of this group are of Ukrainian background and are actively engaged in political advocacy on behalf of Ukraine. Since 2022, Switzerland has invested heavily in supporting Ukraine by providing humanitarian aid, aligning with EU sanctions despite associated economic costs, and accepting tens of thousands of Ukrainian refugees. Precisely because of that generosity, respecting Swiss law is the most basic way to show gratitude to Switzerland for its solidarity. Instead, by prioritizing their national political objectives, they appear to have disregarded the law of the country that has already done so much for them and for the Ukrainian people.

At the center of these activities is Dr. Anastasiia Shynkarenko. She is a researcher at ETH-SED, a board member of AVETH, a member and former president of UASAZ. Together with her associates at ETH she has run more than 100 fundraising campaigns to procure military-related equipment for the Ukrainian Armed Forces, including kamikaze drones, infrared rifle scopes, laser rangefinders, and communications devices. She has documented each delivery on her Facebook page with photos and videos of soldiers receiving the equipment.

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100005234826427

See the screenshots of her selected posts on **pages 1–8** of the attached PDF.

The SECO spokesperson, Fabian Maienfisch, stated in an interview with Antonella Nagel: "Donations to Ukraine that are intended for armaments or other war-relevant goods are prohibited. Swiss banks must also comply with this. If it emerges that a bank has carried out a transaction that goes to the military, it must expect criminal consequences." Antonella Nagel concludes the article with a strong warning to the public: "This also applies to private individuals. Caution is advised when donating to organizations where military ties cannot be ruled out. Swiss neutrality also applies on a small scale." https://www.beobachter.ch/magazin/gesetze-recht/diese-spenden-sind-verboten-676008

Indeed, the delivery of military and paramilitary goods for use in Ukraine, as well as their financing or brokerage, is prohibited under Arts. 2a and 4 of the Ordinance on Measures in Connection with the Situation in Ukraine (SR 946.231.176.72), in force since 4th of March, 2022. The delivery of civilian and dual-use goods under Annex 2 of the GKV to military end users is prohibited, and SECO is obliged to reject corresponding financing applications. Even if a resident in Switzerland finances military, paramilitary, or civilian goods covered by Annex 2 GKV for military end users in Ukraine from assets located abroad, there is still a violation of Arts. 2a and 4 of the Ordinance due to jurisdiction based on residence.

Article 32 provides that violations of Arts. 2 and 4 of the Ordinance are punishable under Art. 9 of the Embargo Act (EmbG), which in serious cases provides for imprisonment of up to five years, thereby meeting the definition of a felony under Art. 10 of the Criminal Code (StGB). Accordingly, any resident in Switzerland who publicly advocates donations to the Ukrainian army may incur a risk of liability under Art. 24 para. 2 StGB for instigation to commit a felony. In addition, if the technical specifications of items procured by Dr. Shynkarenko, such as infrared rifle scopes, qualify them as war materiel, then organizing procurement and delivery without a brokerage license would violate Art. 15 of the War Materiel Act (KMG).

Some of Dr. Shynkarenko's associates who allegedly participated in her fundraising activities can be identified by analyzing the supportive comments, reactions, and shares on her Facebook fundraising posts. For example, Dr. Andriy Stelmakh, Prof. Maksym Kovalenko, Dr. Kostiantyn Kravchyk, Dr. Philipp Kästli and several other members of UASAZ with ETH affiliation expressed supportive reactions to the campaigns (**see PDF-1, pp. 9–13**). Since these campaign posts can be regarded as instigations to commit a felony under Art. 24 StGB, any person who amplifies them through supportive reactions and further dissemination that increases their reach can be liable for aiding and abetting under Art. 25 StGB. These individuals almost certainly contributed financially, which would constitute a separate, direct violation of Arts. 2a and 4 of the Ordinance (SR 946.231.176.72). Financial contributors can be identified by requesting that Dr. Shynkarenko disclose the transaction history for the accounts and payment channels she named for collecting donations. These include her accounts at Raiffeisen Schweiz Genossenschaft, PrivatBank, Monobank, and services such as TWINT, Western Union, Wise, Revolut, and PayPal, with the corresponding account numbers and links shown in her Facebook post (**see PDF-1, p. 14**). Potential cash and in-kind contributors can also be identified by questioning witnesses close to Dr. Shynkarenko at ETH and UASAZ. For example, Dr. Philipp Kästli (ETH-SED) has linked himself with the procurement and delivery of several off-road vehicles to Ukraine. Evidence suggests that one of these vehicles was delivered to the 3rd Operational Brigade "Spartan" of the National Guard of Ukraine in Kharkiv. A photo posted on Facebook shows Dr. Kästli beside the delivered vehicle, accompanied by a uniformed person, outside a building that appears to house the brigade's recruitment office (**see PDF-1, p. 15**).

Dr. Shynkarenko published posts about Ukraine-related events held at ETH by UASAZ alongside the fundraising initiatives, which may create the impression that both are endorsed by ETH leadership. For example, she highlights the participation of ETH President Prof. Dr. Joël Mesot in the photo exhibition "Ukraine: beautiful and unbreakable" (25 April 2023, ETH) immediately next to her fundraising appeal for kamikaze drones for the Ukrainian Armed Forces, which may create the impression that ETH officially supports her fundraising activities (**see PDF-1, p. 16**).

Dr. Shynkarenko and her associates have carried out several fundraising campaigns in favor of the "3rd Separate Assault Brigade (3rd SABr)" (**see PDF-1, pp. 5–7**). The "3rd SABr" is composed of mercenaries and represents an expanded formation of the "Azov Regiment," operating under the same leadership. The "Azov Regiment" is often associated with the "Right Sector", a network of Ukrainian far-right and neo-Nazi organizations. These include, among others, "White Hammer", "S14", "Trident", "UNA-UNSO", the "Ukrainian Volunteer Corps", the "Social-National Assembly", "Centuria", and the "Misanthropic Division." While many of their units are nominally associated with the regular Ukrainian Armed Forces, they operate as de facto private military formations under their own independent chains of command linked to their political leadership. Both the "3rd SABr" and the "Azov Regiment" use insignia resembling the Wolfsangel, which is historically associated with SS units in Nazi Germany (**see PDF-1, p. 7**). Human Rights Watch and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights have linked the "Azov Regiment" to war crimes, including looting, torture, and sexual violence against civilians in eastern Ukraine (HRW 2016, p. 34; OHCHR 2015, pp. 18, 20).

https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/report_pdf/ukraine0716web_2.pdf

https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Countries/UA/Ukraine_14th_HRMMU_Report.pdf

Recently, an entire squad of the "3rd SABr" was arrested in western Ukraine for taking hostages, kidnapping, unlawful detention of civilians, torture, and extortion while on duty - conduct that constitutes war crimes against civilians under international humanitarian law.

https://www-pravda-com-ua.translate.goog/rus/news/2025/10/17/8003211/?_x_tr_sl=ru&_x_tr_tl=en&_x_tr_hl=en&_x_tr_pto=wapp#:~:text=According%20to%20sources,Code%20of%20Ukraine

Acting as a de facto private military formation answerable to political leaders rather than the Ukrainian Army command, the "3rd SABr" is usually deployed in the second line of defense as a blocking detachment, tasked with opening fire on regular units of the Ukrainian Army composed of forcibly conscripted soldiers should they try to retreat from the front line - a practice that may amount to war crimes and other serious violations of international humanitarian law.

https://www.theamericanconservative.com/azov-leader-admits-to-ukrainian-use-of-blocking-detachments/

The connection of Dr. Shynkarenko and her associates at ETH with the "3rd SABr" warrants independent examination, including clarification of whether the resources raised through fundraising campaigns organized in ETH's institutional context may have contributed to the operational capacity of subunits of the "3rd SABr" implicated in war crimes.

In view of the scope and continuity of the fundraising and brokerage activities conducted by Dr. Shynkarenko and her associates, it would be appropriate to clarify whether ETH resources, infrastructure, reputation, or institutional authority were in any way involved. It would be important to determine whether the brokerage, procurement, and delivery of controlled goods organized during ETH working hours involved the use of ETH premises and other ETH resources, for example, ETH travel-expense budgets, IT equipment, network access, and institutional email accounts to coordinate such processes. In addition, the question arises whether any ETH funds or physical assets (such as drones, electronics, or other technical equipment) were used in a way that diverted institutional resources to military end users in Ukraine.

Another point of inquiry is whether ETH employees were approached for donations in their capacity as staff and whether ETH's name, reputation, or internal communication channels were used to solicit donations. It should also be examined whether Dr. Shynkarenko and the previously named senior ETH academics of Ukrainian origin may have used their institutional authority to promote the fundraising campaigns in such a way that their subordinates and younger colleagues, especially other Ukrainians at ETH, felt prompted to donate out of concern that refusing could adversely affect promotions, references, or other professional opportunities. If such concerns were substantiated, they could raise issues relating to offences such as disloyal management, abuse of public office, or undue advantage, which underscores the importance of verifying that internal controls at ETH are sufficient to ensure that academic and administrative decisions have not been influenced by expectations of donations or by political alignment.

In light of the foregoing, the competent authorities, SECO and the ETH leadership, are urgently requested to give this matter their full attention, as the activities described above, if fully substantiated, could indicate significant non-compliance with Ordinance SR 946.231.176.72 and with relevant provisions of the Criminal Code.

Be advised that any communication with Dr. Shynkarenko and her associates on this matter should contain a warning that the removal, alteration, or restriction of public access to social media content relating to their fundraising campaigns, which identifies potential participants through reactions and re-shares, may expose them to criminal liability for assisting offenders under Art. 305 para. 1 of the StGB, provided such action hinders or impedes the identification and prosecution of these individuals.

Glorian Altermann, J.D. | glorian.altermann@proton.me

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ETH Council: michael.hengartner@ethrat.ch; martin.daellenbach@ethrat.ch; pascale.bruderer@parl.ch; nna.fontcuberta-morral@epfl.ch; christian.rueegg@psi.ch; kristin.becker@epfl.ch; susan.gasser@fmi.ch; cornelia.ritz@swissvr.ch; info@ethrat.ch; kommunikation@ethrat.ch; joel.mesot@sl.ethz.ch; cendrine.rouvinez@kellerhals-carrard.ch;
ETH Zürich: president@ethz.ch; guenther.dissertori@sl.ethz.ch; julia.dannath@sl.ethz.ch; joerg.loeffler@mat.ethz.ch; ccoperet@inorg.chem.ethz.ch; stoffel@biol.ethz.ch; grangera@ethz.ch; olivier.bachmann@eaps.ethz.ch; nicolas.gruber@env.ethz.ch; bt@ethz.ch; brigitta.elhadj@bsse.ethz.ch; thomas.hofmann@inf.ethz.ch; olivier.bachmann@eaps.ethz.ch; whitney.behr@eaps.ethz.ch; stefan.wiemer@sed.ethz.ch; florian.haslinger@sed.ethz.ch; jonas.nakonz@ombudsstelle.ethz.ch; ulrike.schlachter@ombudsstelle.ethz.ch; rainer.borer@hk.ethz.ch; life@hk.ethz.ch; intern-aktuell-news@hk.ethz.ch; martina.bonassera@bc.biol.ethz.ch; arturo.winters@mat.ethz.ch; afarner@ethz.ch; nina.effenberger@env.ethz.ch;
Public Figures and Media Representatives: marco.chiesa@parl.ch; daniel.jositsch@parl.ch; roger.koeppel@weltwoche.ch; markus.somm@nebelspalter.ch; info@stricker.tv; dominik.feusi@nebelspalter.ch; contact@mass-voll.ch; desiree.pomper@20minuten.ch; christine.talos@20minutes.ch; daniel.graf@20minuten.ch; raphaela.birrer@tamedia.ch; philipp.loser@tages-anzeiger.ch; fabian.schaefer@nzz.ch; ladina.triaca@nzz.ch; selina.berner@nzz.ch; eva.novak@tamedia.ch; tobias.bruggmann@ringier.ch; georg.halter@srf.ch; petar.marjanovic@blue.ch; priscilla.imboden@republik.ch; arthur.grosjean@tdg.ch; redaktion@beobachter.ch; contact@swissinfo.ch; redaktion@nzz.ch; redaktion@tagesanzeiger.ch; redaktion@20minuten.ch; redaktion@chmedia.ch;

 https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=2660257747492027&id=100005234826427

Anastasiia Shynkarenko
December 13, 2024 ·

Доповнення до поточного збору - звернення від військових. Дуже соромно взагалі просити військових записувати такі відео, але не завжди виходить обійтися без цього.
Нагадаю, що збираємо 154000 грн на тепловізор на Сумщину, шини на Донеччину та зарядну станцію і старлінк на Харківщину. Більше деталей та про подарунки за донат можна почитати в попередньому пості.
Буду дуже вдячна за вашу допомогу!
Всі реквізити для донатів є тут: https://linktr.ee/ashynkarenko
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Addition to the current fundraisers - an appeal from our defenders. It is so horrible even to ask them to record such videos, but it is not always possible to manage the fundraiser without this.
Let me remind you that we are collecting 3500 EUR for a thermal imager for the defenders in the Sumy region, tires for the Donetsk region, and a charging station and Starlink for the Kharkiv region. More details and gifts for donations can be read in the previous post.
I would be very grateful for your help!
All ways to donate are listed here: https://linktr.ee/ashynkarenko

Dr. Anastasiia Shynkarenko (ETH, SED, UASAZ, AVETH):

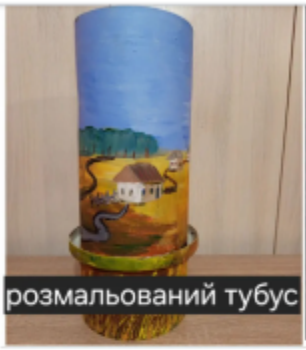
http://www.seismo.ethz.ch/en/about-us/all-employees/anastasiia-shynkarenko/
https://www.aveth.ethz.ch/aboutus/
https://ethz.ch/staffnet/en/news-and-events/internal-news/archive/2025/01/aveths-leadership-team-unveiled.html
https://uasaz.org/

Anastasiia Shynkarenko
October 26, 2024 ·

#звіт
Два прилади нічного бачення та бронежилет уже у наших захисників на Сумщині. Дякую всім, хто долучився до збору на ці важливі речі! Сподіваюся, що ми так само успішно будемо закривати майбутні збори. Будьмо реалістами, менше зборів найближчим часом точно не стане. Тому продовжуємо працювати та допомагати нашим захисникам.

#report
Two night vision devices and a bulletproof vest are already delivered to our defenders in Sumy region. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the fundraiser for these important items! I hope that we will close future fundraisers with the same success. Let's be realistic, we will definitely not have fewer fundraisers in the near future. That is why we continue working and helping our defenders.

Anastasiia Shynkarenko's post



9 4 comments 23 shares

Like Comment Share

Anastasiia Shynkarenko

#fundraiser for the defenders of Sumy region (UA version above). Friends, hello! Once again, I need your help to close the fundraiser for the military in Sumy region: border guards (105th border detachment) and the 129th brigade, which is now on a very important route. They need a thermal imager, a bulletproof vest and several night vision monoculars. The amount required to buy these things is UAH 120,000 (if we buy only two monoculars; overall, we need 6 of them!). Time constraints: the faster the better. And for a donation of UAH 100 or more, you have the opportunity to win a silver trident pendant from @ilona_silver_fox or a vase painted by children from a shot tube. Terms of participation in the draw: 1. Make a donation from UAH 100 ($3/€/chf) to any credentials via the link https://linktr.ee/ashynkarenko (there is a monobank, paypal, twint, private bank). Every 100 UAH or 3 $/€/chf are equal to one "lottery ticket. 2. Don't forget to include your contact details in the payment comment so that I can find you. 3. A comment/like/repost of the post is not required to participate in the draw, but I would be very grateful for it! At the end of the fundraiser, I will create a table where all donors will be anonymously listed and the lottery numbers assigned to them. The drawing will be conducted using a random number generator. This fundraiser will last until October 20 or until the collection closes (if it happens earlier). If the winners refuse their prize or cannot be identified, a new drawing will be held. Once again, I will remind you of the link to all details: https://linktr.ee/ashynkarenko Thank you in advance for your donations and for spreading the word about this fundraiser and lottery!

Seite 4 https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=2432993730218431&id=100005234826427

Anastasiia Shynkarenko
March 9, 2024 ·

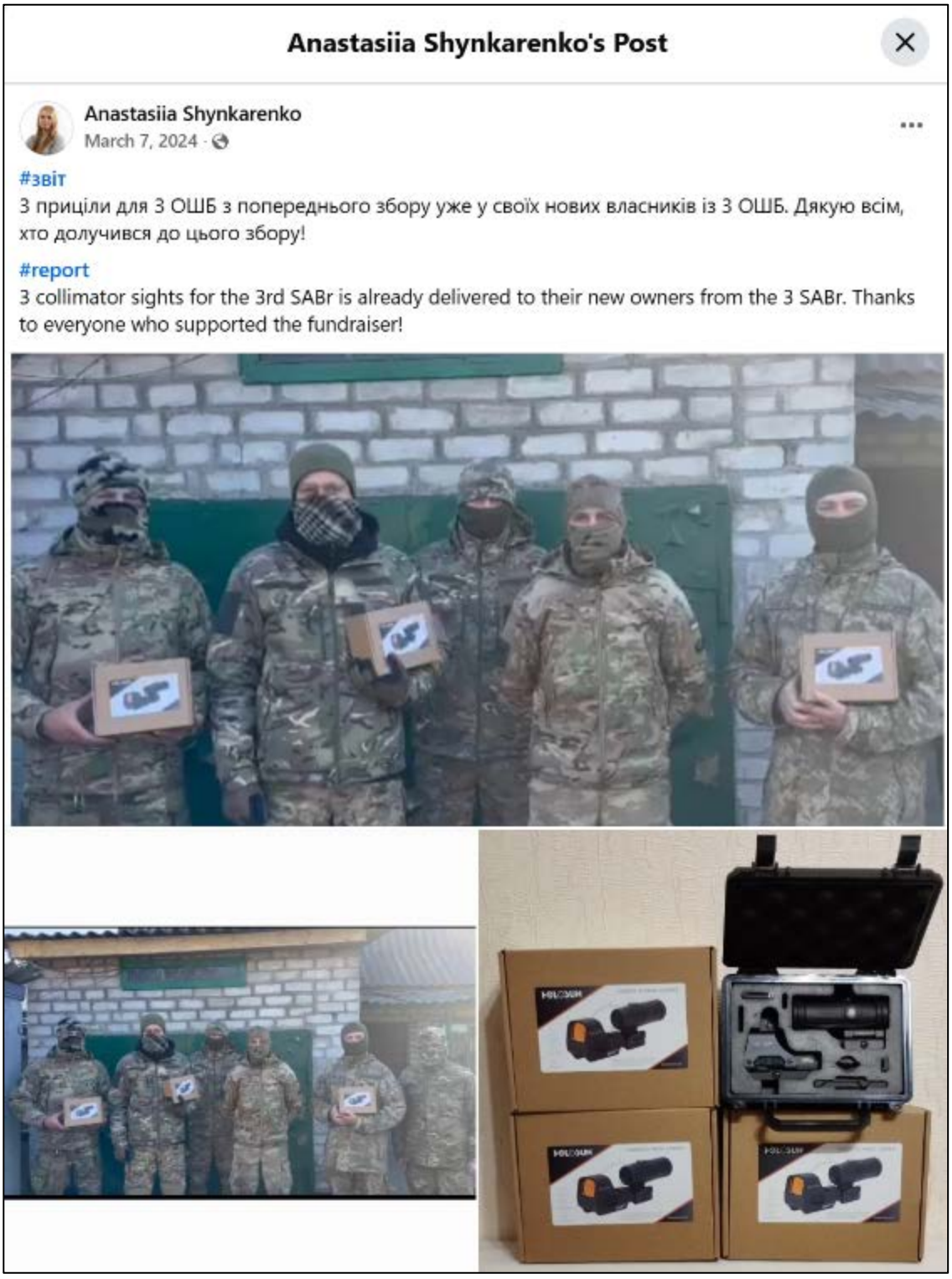
#звіт
Четвертий приціл із попереднього збору вже у наших захисників, які наразі перебувають на Запорізькому напрямку.

#report
The fourth sight from the previous fundraiser is already delivered to our defenders at Zaporizhzhia region.

6

Seite 5 https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=2431001180417686&id=100005234826427

https://archive.md/DEK8D


Anastasiia Shynkarenko's Post
Anastasiia Shynkarenko
March 7, 2024 ·
#звіт
3 приціли для 3 ОШБ з попереднього збору уже у своїх нових власників із 3 ОШБ. Дякую всім, хто долучився до цього збору!
#report
3 collimator sights for the 3rd SABr is already delivered to their new owners from the 3 SABr. Thanks to everyone who supported the fundraiser!

Seite 6

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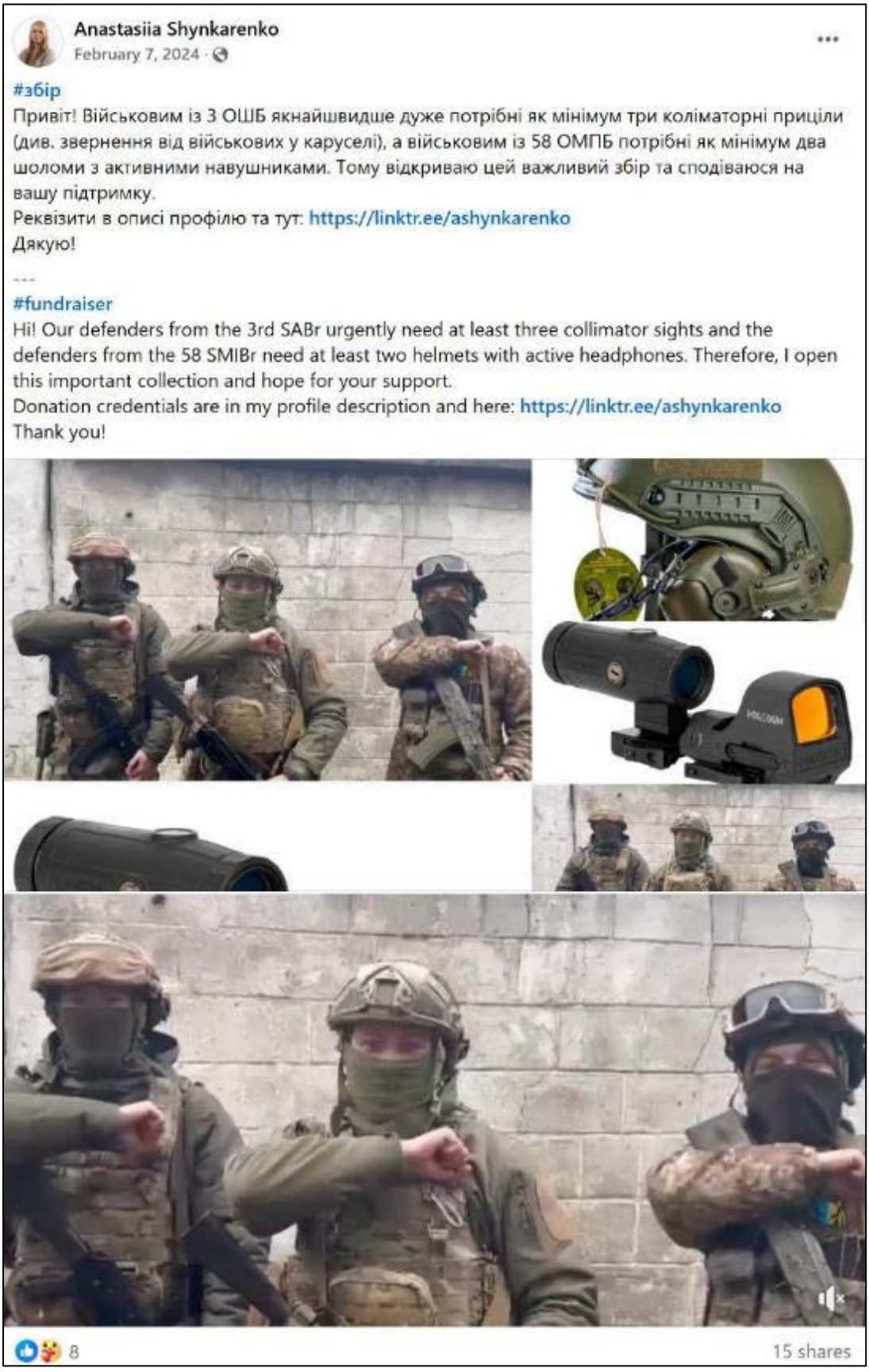

Anastasiia Shynkarenko
February 7, 2024 ·
#збір
Привіт! Військовим із 3 ОШБ якнайшвидше дуже потрібні як мінімум три коліматорні приціли (див. звернення від військових у каруселі), а військовим із 58 ОМПБ потрібні як мінімум два шоломи з активними навушниками. Тому відкриваю цей важливий збір та сподіваюся на вашу підтримку.
Реквізити в описі профілю та тут: https://linktr.ee/ashynkarenko
Дякую!

#fundraiser
Hi! Our defenders from the 3rd SABr urgently need at least three collimator sights and the defenders from the 58 SMIBr need at least two helmets with active headphones. Therefore, I open this important collection and hope for your support.
Donation credentials are in my profile description and here: https://linktr.ee/ashynkarenko
Thank you!
8
15 shares

Seite 7 https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=2388690517982086&id=100005234826427

https://archive.md/CEAqz

Anastasiia Shynkarenko
January 3, 2024 ·
Перший звіт року не забарився: лазерний далекомір, два шоломи з активними навушниками та маскувальні костюми придбані та передані нашим захисникам. Дякую всім, хто підтримав ці збори!

The first report of the year is already here: a laser range finder, two helmets with active headphones and camouflage suits were purchased and delivered to our defenders. Thank you to everyone who supported these fundraisers!

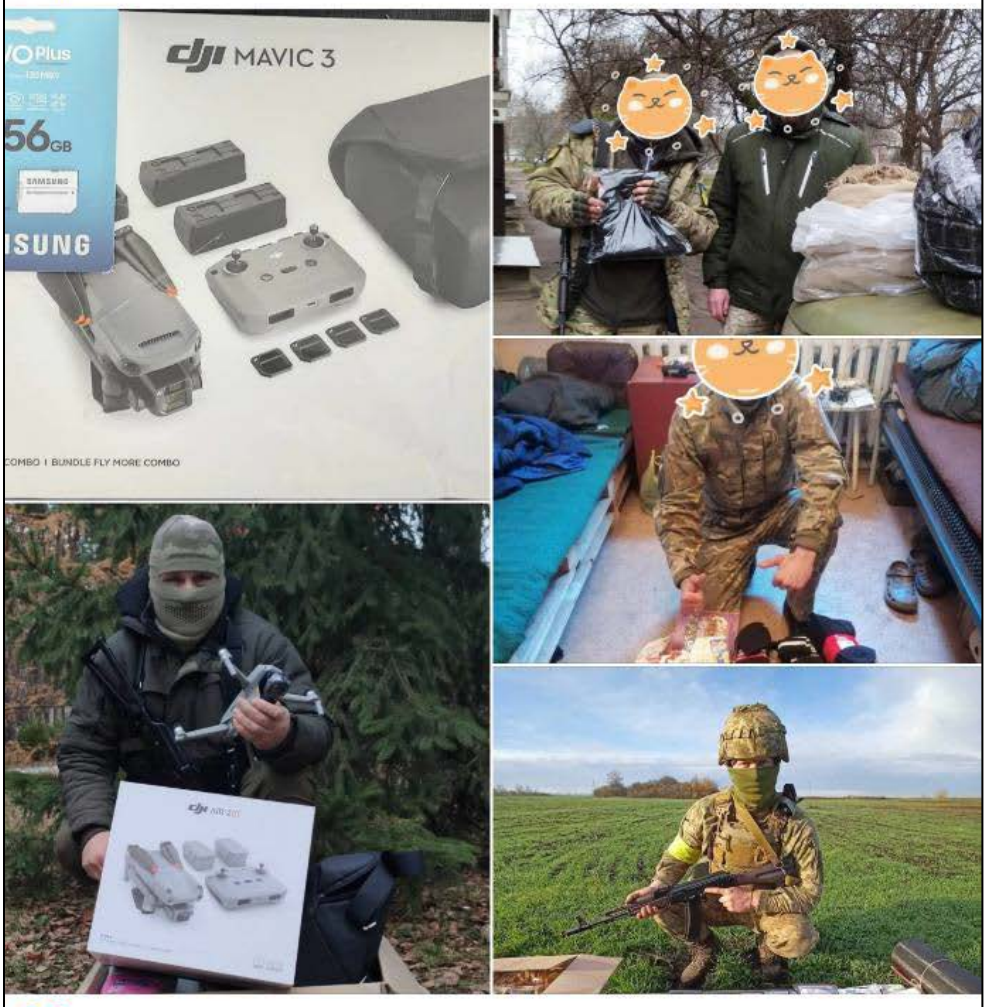
3rd Assault Brigade (3rd SABr)	Azov Regimen	2. SS-Panzer-Division «Das Reich»
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/3rd_Assault_Brigade	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Azov_Brigade	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2nd_SS_Panzer_Division_Das_Reich

Seite 8 https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=2103109043206903&id=100005234826427

Anastasiia Shynkarenko
November 10, 2022 ·

Усім привіт! Коротенький звіт: дякуємо всім, хто долучився до збору на дрон, ми його вже придбали (фото 1) і він прямує до волонтерів у Конотопі. Більшу частину суми збору закрили саме конотопські волонтери, тому у мене ще лишилося трохи коштів, які я використаю на придбання інших речей, які замовляють військові.
Фото 2 - дрон з минулого збору вже поїхав працювати на фронт.
Фото 3,4,5 - ще трошки фотозвітів про те, як ваші і наші донати перетворюються на корисні ніштяки для наших захисників. П.с. Ми завжди вдячні за нові донати💛💙 Посилання на банку та інші реквізити є за лінком в шапці мого профілю.
Дякуємо!

Hello everyone! A short report: we deeply grateful to everyone who joined our donations collection for the drone. We have already bought it (photo 1) and it's on its way to the volunteers in Konotop (NE of Ukraine; from there, it will be delivered to the front line). The greater amount of the drone cost was collected by the volunteers from Konotop, so I still have a bit of money that I will use to buy some smaller things requested by our soldiers.
Photo 2 - a drone from the previous collection is already helping on the battlefield.
Photos 3-5 - some more reports on how your and our donations transform into the useful things for Ukrainian defenders.
P.s. We always appreciate new donations 💙💛A link with different donation credentials are in the header of my profile.
Thank you!



19 1 comment

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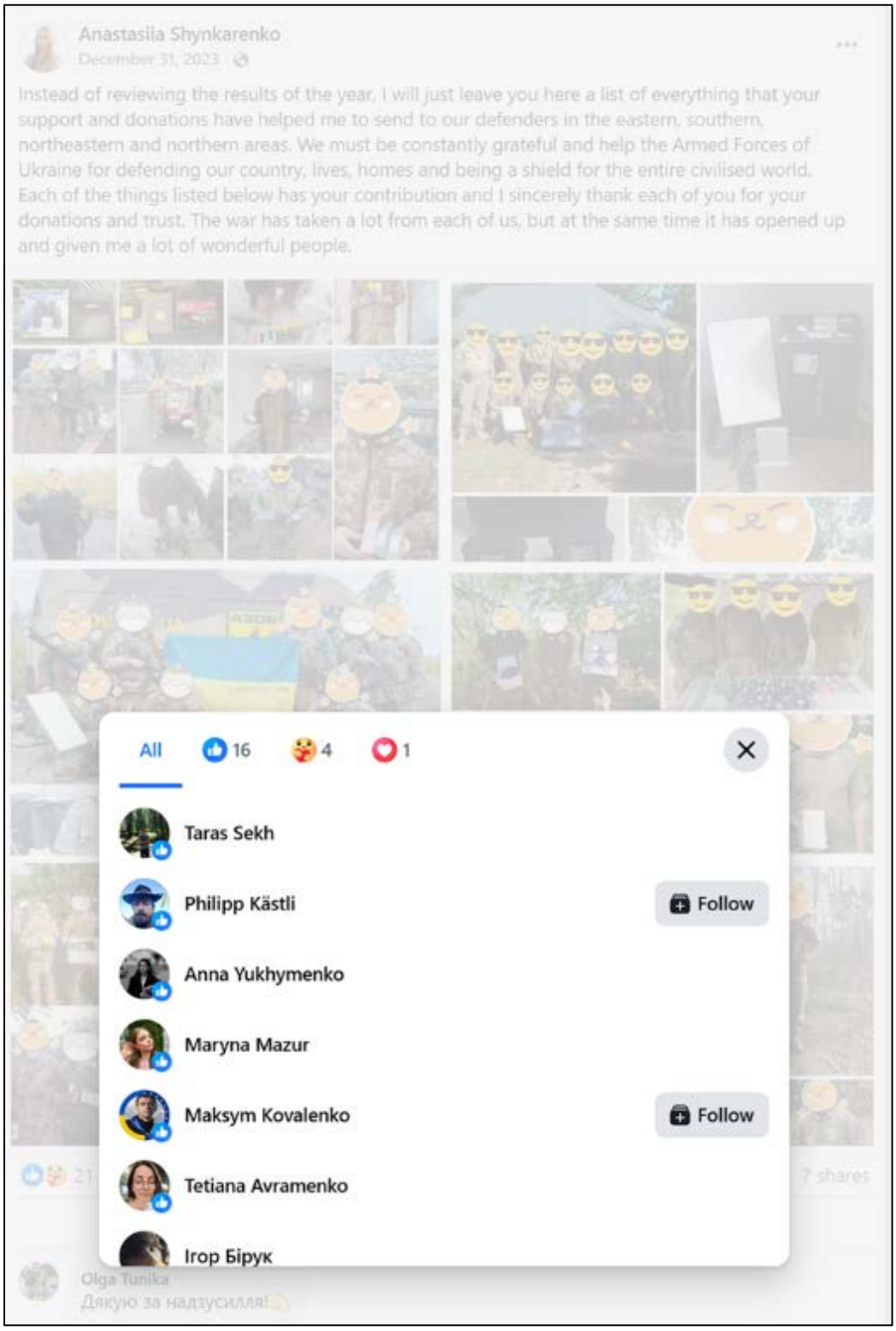
https://archive.md/3PVDI


Anastasiia Shynkarenko
December 31, 2023
Instead of reviewing the results of the year, I will just leave you here a list of everything that your support and donations have helped me to send to our defenders in the eastern, southern, northeastern and northern areas. We must be constantly grateful and help the Armed Forces of Ukraine for defending our country, lives, homes and being a shield for the entire civilised world. Each of the things listed below has your contribution and I sincerely thank each of you for your donations and trust. The war has taken a lot from each of us, but at the same time it has opened up and given me a lot of wonderful people.
All
16
4
1
Taras Sekh
Philipp Kästli
Follow
Anna Yukhymenko
Maryna Mazur
Maksym Kovalenko
Follow
Tetiana Avramenko
Ігор Бірук
7 shares
Olga Tunika
Дякую за надзусилля!

Taras Sekh (ETH, UASAZ): https://ch.linkedin.com/in/taras-sekh-9634042b8
Dr. Phillip Kästli (ETH): http://www.seismo.ethz.ch/de/about-us/all-employees/philipp-kaestli/
Maryna Mazur (ETH, UASAZ): https://www.linkedin.com/in/mazurmaryna/
Prof. Maksym Kovalenko (ETH, UASAZ): https://kovalenkolab.ethz.ch/people/prof_dr_maksym_kovalenko.html
Tetiana Avramenko (EMPA, UASAZ): https://www.empa.ch/web/s304/team

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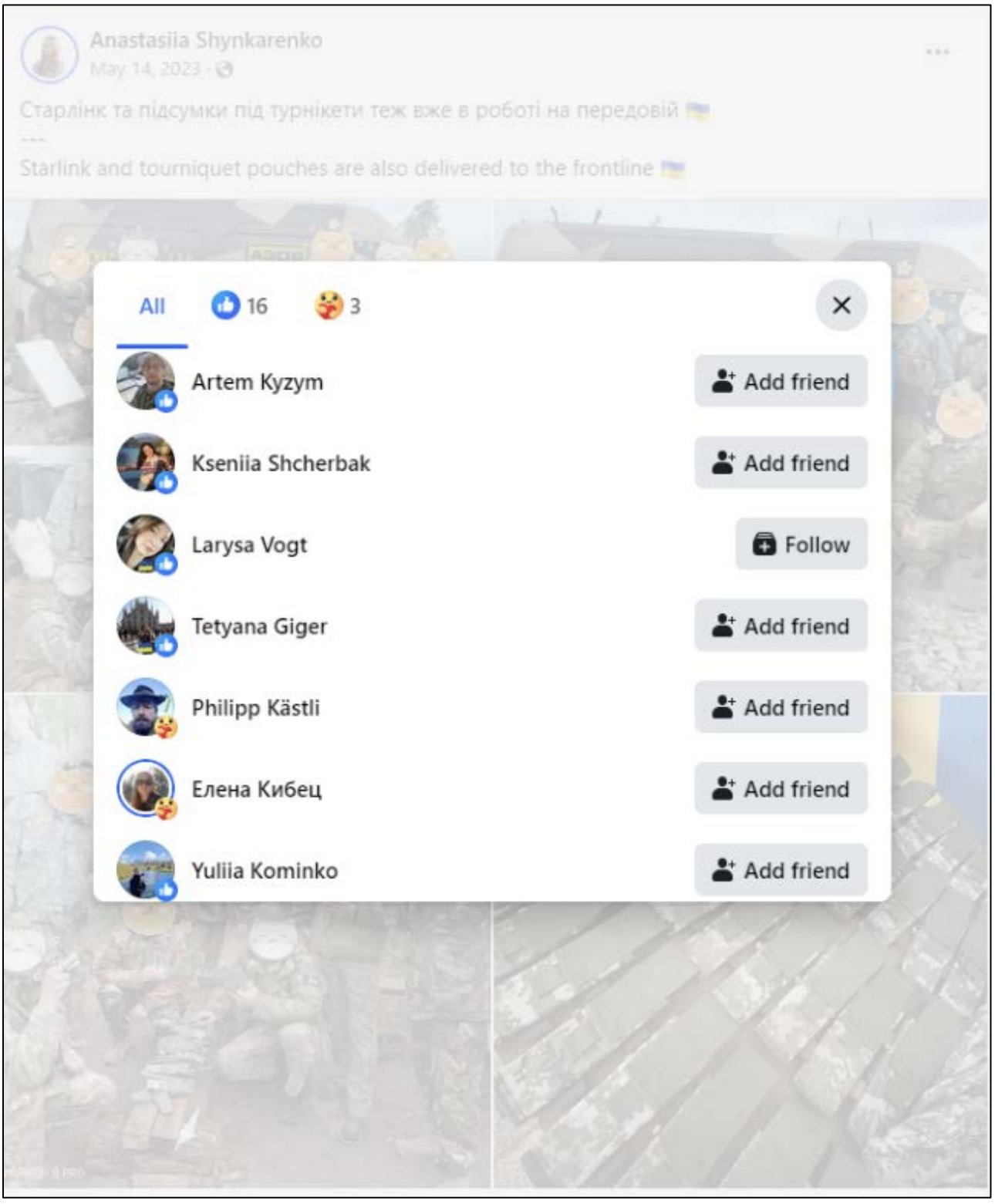
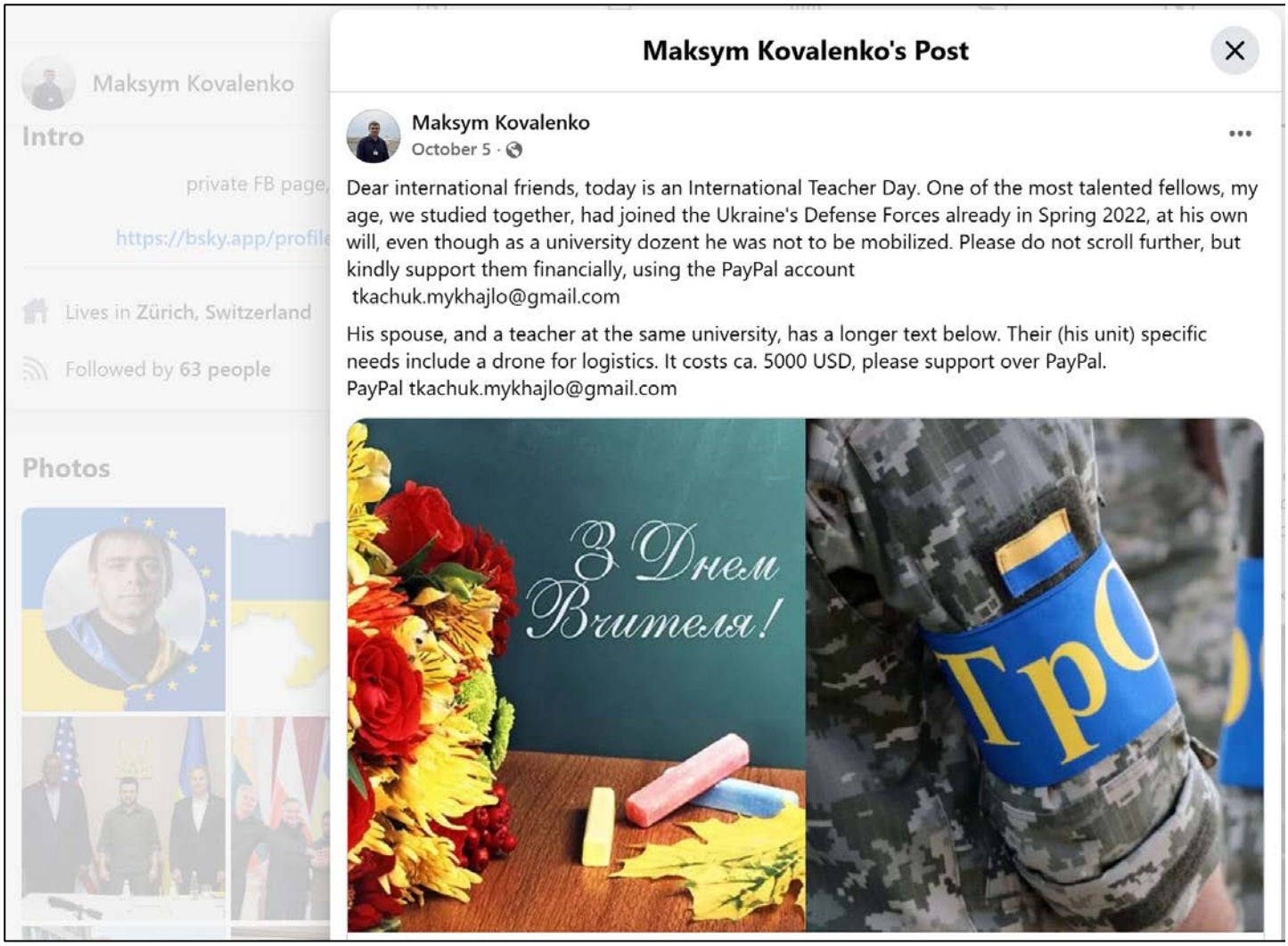
https://archive.md/Gtj0E



Artem Kyzym (ETH: 2021-2024, UASAZ): https://www.linkedin.com/in/artem-kyzym-b94548177/
Kseniia Shcherbak (ETH, UASAZ): https://ch.linkedin.com/in/kseniia-shcherbak-59a186292/
Dr. Phillip Kästli (ETH): http://www.seismo.ethz.ch/de/about-us/all-employees/philipp-kaestli/
Yuliia Kominko (ETH, UASAZ): https://kovalenkolab.ethz.ch/people/person-detail.MzAxNTQw.TGlzdC8xODk0LC03MzQxNjI1MTk=.html

Seite 11 https://www.facebook.com/maksym.kovalenko.7/posts/10228583644199690

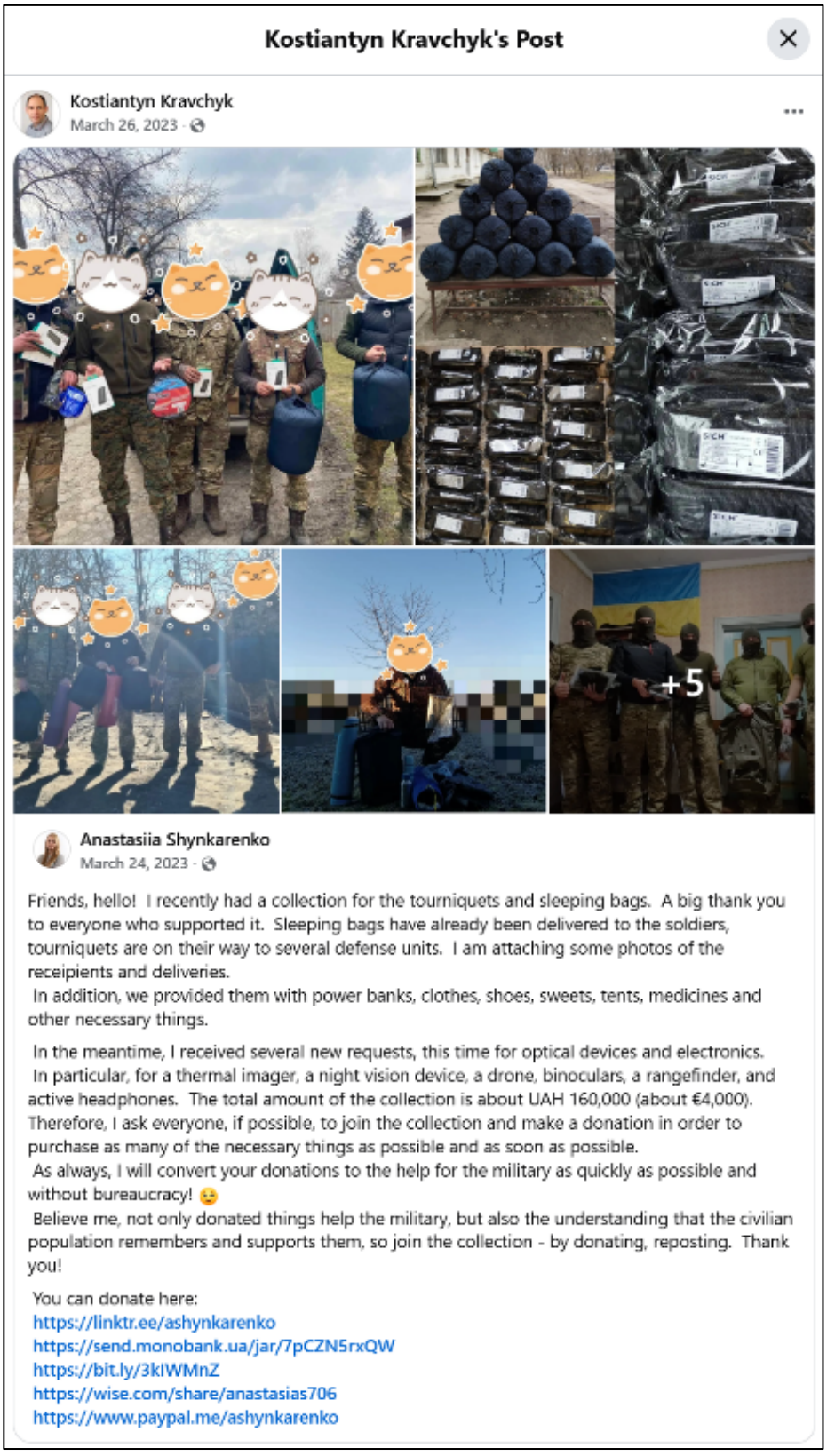
https://archive.md/PEmcn


Maksym Kovalenko
Intro
private FB page,
https://bsky.app/profile
Lives in Zürich, Switzerland
Followed by 63 people
Photos
Maksym Kovalenko's Post
Maksym Kovalenko
October 5 ·
Dear international friends, today is an International Teacher Day. One of the most talented fellows, my age, we studied together, had joined the Ukraine's Defense Forces already in Spring 2022, at his own will, even though as a university dozent he was not to be mobilized. Please do not scroll further, but kindly support them financially, using the PayPal account
tkachuk.mykhajlo@gmail.com
His spouse, and a teacher at the same university, has a longer text below. Their (his unit) specific needs include a drone for logistics. It costs ca. 5000 USD, please support over PayPal.
PayPal tkachuk.mykhajlo@gmail.com
З Днем Вчителя!

Prof. Maksym Kovalenko (ETH, EMPA, UASAZ):
https://kovalenkolab.ethz.ch/people/prof_dr_maksym_kovalenko.html
https://www.empa.ch/web/s207/team

Seite 12 https://www.facebook.com/kostiantyn.kravchyk/posts/562019242578886

https://archive.md/h9MKR



Kostiantyn Kravchyk's Post

Kostiantyn Kravchyk
March 26, 2023 ·

+5

Anastasiia Shynkarenko
March 24, 2023 ·

Friends, hello! I recently had a collection for the tourniquets and sleeping bags. A big thank you to everyone who supported it. Sleeping bags have already been delivered to the soldiers, tourniquets are on their way to several defense units. I am attaching some photos of the receipients and deliveries.
In addition, we provided them with power banks, clothes, shoes, sweets, tents, medicines and other necessary things.

In the meantime, I received several new requests, this time for optical devices and electronics. In particular, for a thermal imager, a night vision device, a drone, binoculars, a rangefinder, and active headphones. The total amount of the collection is about UAH 160,000 (about €4,000). Therefore, I ask everyone, if possible, to join the collection and make a donation in order to purchase as many of the necessary things as possible and as soon as possible.
As always, I will convert your donations to the help for the military as quickly as possible and without bureaucracy! 😉
Believe me, not only donated things help the military, but also the understanding that the civilian population remembers and supports them, so join the collection - by donating, reposting. Thank you!

You can donate here:
https://linktr.ee/ashynkarenko
https://send.monobank.ua/jar/7pCZN5rxQW
https://bit.ly/3klWMnZ
https://wise.com/share/anastasias706
https://www.paypal.me/ashynkarenko

Dr. Kostiantyn Kravchyk (ETH, EMPA, UASAZ):
https://kovalenkolab.ethz.ch/people/research_fellows.html https://www.empa.ch/web/s207/team

Seite 13 https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=3308721636122738&id=100009548033805

https://archive.md/GiRZR

Serhiy Prytula
October 10, 2022 ·

Friends, we are gathering for revenge!!!

Serhiy Sternenko and I planned to start this collection on October 12, but the bunker freak made his adjustments.

LET'S START NOW!!!

We are assembling RAM II UAV kamikaze drones for Ukraine.
There will be cotton. It will hurt.

The more we collect, the more there will be!!!

PrivatBank: https://www.liqpay.ua/api/3/checkout?data=eyJ2ZXJzaW9uIjozLCJhY3Rpb24iOiJwYXlkb25hdGUiLCJhbW91bnQiOjUsImN1cnJlbmN5IjoiVUFIIiwiZGVzY3JpcHRpb24iOiLQkdC70LDQs9C+0LTRltC50L3QuNC5INCx0L
XQt9C/0L7QstC+0YDQuNC5INCy0L3QtdGB0L7QuiDQvdCwIFwi0JHQsNCy0L7QstC90YNcIiIsInB1Ymxp
Y19rZXkiOiJpMjI2OTc1Mzc4MzYiLCJsYW5ndWFnZSI6InVrIn0=&signature=IpB66PePfVY/Wi0OrusshWz8cA4=

Monobank: https://send.monobank.ua/jar/2vPxZALuVz

IBAN: UA173052990000026008046715893

PayPal:
serhiy.prytula.kyiv@gmail.com

Serhiy is also saving for the bank, then we'll add it all together.

There will be revenge, they will burn!!!!

Repost!!!

Dr. Andriy Stelmakh (ETH, UASAZ):
https://kovalenkolab.ethz.ch/people/person-detail.MjM2MTU0.TGlzdC8xODk0LC03MzQxNjI1MTk=.html

Seite 14 https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=1922042514646891&id=100005234826427

https://archive.md/J29Ds https://archive.md/dnMsP

Anastasiia Shynkarenko's Post

Anastasiia Shynkarenko
March 22, 2022 ·

*ukrainian version below//українська версія тексту знизу

Dear friends, colleagues, and everyone who is reading this post,

My name is Anastasiia Shynkarenko, I am a PhD student at ETH Zürich, and my native country is Ukraine. I am sure that you know about the war in Ukraine that includes all possible and impossible ways of destroying my motherland. The Russian army is killing innocent people (among them, more than 110 kids), destroying the residential areas and all infrastructure, blocking escape corridors and delivery of humanitarian aid.

I am very grateful to each of you for the help you provide and your support. At our local collection center of humanitarian aid in Chur (Kanton Graubünden in Switzerland), we collect a really huge amount of humanitarian aid which is regularly shipped to Ukraine. But the war cannot be stopped by covering only humanitarian needs, our army and territorial defence units continuously need equipment, medical supplies, money to cover their needs, etc. Although the volunteers all over the world are doing just unbelievable and unthinkable things (you can just check the stocks of tactical supplies of your country and see that they are already emptied), some needs can never be completely covered.

One of such needs is to finance territorial defence units (who "yesterday" were just ordinary people and now stand to fight against the Russian invaders to protect their families, cities, and country) and to help them to buy the needed equipment, fuel etc. A close friend of my family in Ukraine (from the Sumy region, one of the hottest spots close to the Russian border), asked for urgent help. Thus, I would like to ask all of you, who would like to help them, to contact me or directly use one of the following ways to provide financial support:

1. TWINT, my number is +41-76-593-96-93,
2. My Ukrainian bank account (Українська картка): 5457 0822 7188 7882
3. My Swiss bank account: CH95 8080 8006 4674 9812 9, IID (BC-Nr): 80808; SWIFT-BIC: RAIFCH22
4. Western Union on my name
5. Wise: 4569332808777066

Please feel free to contact me if you have other ideas on how you would like to help (e.g. as I said above, we have a big collection center and continuously accept donations to cover all the humanitarian needs in Ukraine).

I will regularly provide the reports on the money collected and then sent to the trusted recipient in Ukraine, and, of course, an overview of the purchases done by him in Ukraine.

Thank you all,
Sincerely,
Anastasiia

Seite 15 https://www.facebook.com/kaestli/posts/10227069892350491

https://archive.md/x5dZY

Dr. Phillip Kästli (ETH): http://www.seismo.ethz.ch/de/about-us/all-employees/philipp-kaestli/

 https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=2306708609513611&id=100005234826427

https://archive.md/9hp1k

https://archive.md/XJ76o

Anastasiia Shynkarenko
August 26, 2023 ·

Добрий вечір усім. Турнікети, берці, та деяке приладдя для польової кухні також уже передане нашим захисникам. Далі буде. Продовжуємо допомагати ЗСУ та щиро дякую всім, хто підтримує мої збори!

Good evening everyone. Tourniquets, boots, and some equipment for the field kitchen have also already been handed over to our defenders. To be continued.
We continue to help the Armed Forces and I sincerely thank everyone who supports my fundraisers!

15

Like Comment Send Share

[redacted]

Anastasiia Shynkarenko
August 25, 2023 ·

Посольство України в Швейцарії
August 25, 2023 ·

Die Ukraine: schön und unzerbrechlich

Die Botschafterin der Ukraine Iryna Venediktova zusammen mit U.S. Embassy, Bern Botschafter Scott Miller und Präsident der ETH Zürich Prof. Dr. Jöel Mesot besuchte die Fotoausstellung „Ukraine: schön und unzerbrechlich" in den Wänden der ETH Zürich.

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Heute wird die Ukraine durch das Prisma des Krieges wahrgenommen und von militärischen Kämpfen in den Nachrichten begleitet. Aber wenn man tiefer eintaucht, bietet unser Land eine reiche Kultur, ein historisches UNESCO-Erbe, architektonische Sehenswürdigkeiten, beeindruckende Landschaften und viel anderes.

Vor dem Unabhängigkeitstag der Ukraine entstand die Idee und wurde vom Ukrainischen Studenten- und Wissenschaftlerverband Zürich Ukrainian Association of Students and Academics in Zurich in Zusammenarbeit mit Ukrainer umgesetzt. Die Vertreter der UASAZ stellten fest, dass sie mit Fotoserie, die von Ukraïner zur Verfügung gestellt war, versuchten den Besuchern die Größe der ukrainischen Nation und des ukrainischen Landes näherzubringen

Wir danken unseren Studenten und Wissenschaftlern dafür, dass sie das innere Wesen unseres Staates präsentiert und die einzigartige Schönheit unserer mächtigen Regionen vorgestellt haben.

Die Fotoausstellung läuft bis zum 27. August in der ETH HG G-Galerie, Rämistrasse 101, 8006 Zürich.

See Translation

13 1 share

Like Comment Send Share

[redacted]

Anastasiia Shynkarenko updated her status.
August 24, 2023 ·

This content isn't available right now
When this happens, it's usually because the owner only shared it with a small group of people, changed who can see it or it's been deleted.

3 1 share

Like Comment Send Share

Write a comment...

Anastasiia Shynkarenko
August 21, 2023 ·

Друзі привіт! Я до вас із новими проханнями від військових, яким ми постійно допомагаємо, та, відповідно, новим збором.
Що потрібно:
117 бригада: FPV дрон та окуляри
44 бригада: детектори дронів та Ecoflow
58 бригада: павербенки... See more

SECO
SERI
ETH Council
ETH Zurich
Public Figures and Media Representatives

Report regarding potential violations at ETH Zurich of Ordinance SR 946.231.176.72 and applicable criminal provisions (Part 2)

[5] WG: Bericht über Verstösse von ETH-Angehörigen gegen das Verbot kriegsrelevanter Ausfuhren in die Ukraine

From simon.pluess@seco.admin.ch Dec 16, 2025
To glorian.altermann@proton.me
CC daniel.aeby@seco.admin.ch
ueli.schnetzer@seco.admin.ch
juergen.boehler@seco.admin.ch
bettino.feltscher@seco.admin.ch
fabian.maienfisch@seco.admin.ch

Tuesday, December 16th, 2025 at 10:58 AM

Sehr geehrter Herr Dr. Altermann

Wir bedanken uns für Ihre detaillierte Zuschrift, die wir sorgfältig prüfen werden.

Wir stehen mit der ETH Zürich als öffentlich-rechtliche Einrichtung des Bundes im engen Kontakt, einschliesslich im Exportkontroll- und Sanktionsbereich.

Das SECO geht Hinweisen auf allfällige Verstösse von Sanktionsmassnahmen konsequent nach.

Im Falle von Fragen oder Unklarheiten würden wir uns erneut mit Ihnen in Verbindung setzen. Sollten Sie uns zusätzliche oder anderweitige Informationen zukommen lassen wollen, sind wir gerne bereit, diese ebenfalls zu prüfen.

Freundliche Grüsse

Simon Plüss, Botschafter
Leistungsbereichsleiter

Mitglied der Geschäftsleitung

Eidgenössisches Departement für

Wirtschaft, Bildung und Forschung WBF
Staatssekretariat für Wirtschaft SECO

Exportkontrollen und Sanktionen

Holzikofenweg 36, CH-3003 Bern
Phone ++ 41 58 464 50 36
simon.pluess@seco.admin.ch
www.seco.admin.ch

Dear Dr. Altermann,

Thank you for your detailed letter, which we will review carefully.

As a public-law institution of the Confederation, ETH Zurich is in close contact with us, including in matters relating to export controls and sanctions.

SECO consistently follows up on indications of any possible violations of sanctions measures.

If any questions or uncertainties arise, we will contact you again. Should you wish to provide us with additional or other information, we will also be happy to review that.

Kind regards,

Simon Plüss, Ambassador
Head of Division
Member of the Executive Board
Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER
State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO
Export Controls and Sanctions
Holzikofenweg 36, CH-3003 Bern
Phone: +41 58 464 50 36
simon.pluess@seco.admin.ch
www.seco.admin.ch

Dear Ambassador Plüss,

Thank you for your kind reply and for taking the time to look into this. I am confident that ETH will cooperate fully with SECO in examining this case. Meanwhile, you may have noticed that Dr. Shynkarenko has cleared her Facebook account, which suggests she was shown the report and became aware that her fundraising activities on behalf of the Ukrainian military had been brought to SECO's attention. As a matter of procedural principle, she has no duty to incriminate herself, but the deliberate removal of evidence points to non-cooperation and can reasonably be understood as an effort to obstruct fact-finding and avoid accountability.

While I expect SECO has its own means to capture and preserve online evidence, copies of some of the posts mentioned in the report may also be retrieved via archive.md, which automatically creates time-stamped copies of online content:

Dr. Shynkarenko: (Page 5) https://archive.md/DEK8D , (Page 6) https://archive.md/JSCbQ (Page 7) https://archive.md/CEAqz , (Page 10) https://archive.md/Gtj0E (Page 14) https://archive.md/J29Ds , https://archive.md/dnMsP	(These are her posts related to fundraising on behalf of the "Azov Regiment" and the "3rd SABr," along with her bank account numbers and the payment services she used for fundraising.)

Prof. Kovalenko: (Page 11) https://archive.md/PEmcn Dr. Stelmakh: (Page 13) https://archive.md/tWlqi Dr. Kästli: (Page 15) https://archive.md/x5dZY	(I have included links to the archived copies in the attached PDF-1. Please use this version as the evidence and disregard the PDF file I sent in my previous email.)

The fact that Dr. Shynkarenko fundraised for the delivery of specific equipment to the "Azov Regiment" and the "3rd SABr" suggests direct coordination with these units and raises the obvious question of how she was able to build trusted relationships with unit commanders while based in Switzerland. One plausible explanation is that she may have done so through a local intermediary, given indications that the "Azov Regiment" has established a branch in Switzerland in cooperation with Swiss far-right groups (**see PDF-2, p. 1**).

Indeed, the Wolfsangel-like insignia of the "Azov Regimen" and red-and-black flags of the Ukrainian neo-Nazi organizations, including "Right Sector", are frequently seen at Ukrainian rallies in Switzerland, suggesting that Ukrainian neo-Nazi networks have taken roots among Ukrainian expatriates and refugees (**see PDF-2, pp. 2-4**).

The "Right Sector" is a direct descendant of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists founded by Stepan Bandera (OUN-B). OUN-B collaborated with Nazi Germany during World War II, and its members constituted the SS Grenadier Division "Galicia", the "Nachtigall" and "Roland" battalions within the Abwehr, and the Ukrainian Auxiliary Police. During the war, OUN-B and its military wing "Ukrainian Insurgent Army" carried out ethnic cleansing of Jewish and Polish populations in Ukraine, without sparing women and children, in what is known as the Volhynian Massacre (**see PDF-2, p. 4**). After the war, the OUN-B leadership fled to Western Europe, Canada, and the US, where it operated under the guise of cultural and charity organizations in the Ukrainian diaspora. Soon after Ukraine's secession from the USSR in 1991, the 5th leader of the OUN-B, Slava Stetsko (then 73 years old), a party member since its foundation and a close associate of Bandera, returned to Ukraine and founded the OUN-B successor party, the "Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists," and its paramilitary wing, "Trident," which in 2013 consolidated Ukrainian neo-Nazi and far-right organizations into the "Right Sector." The red-and-black flag is a distinctive party symbol of OUN-B and its political descendants. It has no official status in Ukraine. Therefore, the repeated appearance of this flag at Ukrainian rallies in Switzerland suggests the presence of a local Ukrainian neo-Nazi network.

There is a photo of Dr. Shynkarenko, Dr. Sakhatskyi, Prof. Kovalenko, and other UASAZ members at ETH posing under the red-and-black banner of the Ukrainian neo-Nazi **(see PDF-2, p. 5)**. Also, Prof. Kovalenko published a photo of his group member, Dr. Sakhatskyi, casually wearing a T-shirt bearing a portrait of Stepan Bandera, the first leader of the OUN-B, at ETH, as well as a photo showing a red-and-black banner displayed together with the ETH affiliation badge at a scientific conference (**see PDF-2, pp. 5-6**). Furthermore, Prof. Kovalenko published a post glorifying Stepan Bandera, as well as promoted a video from a Ukrainian rally in Switzerland in which a crowd of Ukrainian expatriates shouted the official slogan of Bandera's OUN-B party: "Glory to Ukraine - glory to heroes! Ukraine above all! Glory to the nation - death to enemies!" (**see PDF-2, p. 6**). In that context, it is not surprising that these individuals see no issue with fundraising for Ukrainian neo-Nazi formations, given their visible alignment with the same political ideology.

Based on posts preserved on archive.md, Prof. Kovalenko and other members of his research group, Dr. Sakhatskyi, Dr. Hordiichuk, Dr. Cherniukh and Dr. Dirin also promoted fundraising campaigns aimed at supplying weapons to Ukraine (**see PDF-2, pp. 7-8**). Given that they publicly encouraged donations, it is reasonable to infer that they contributed financially themselves. The case of Dr. Dirin, a Russian national, is particularly interesting because donations to the Ukrainian army are prosecuted as state treason in Russia and can carry a penalty of up to 15 years in prison, making the personal stakes for him unusually high. Therefore, it should be thoroughly examined whether he did so under perceived pressure to demonstrate political alignment in an environment where his boss, Prof. Kovalenko, and a disproportionate share of group members are Ukrainian nationals who uncompromisingly promote a Ukrainian political agenda, imply collective responsibility for all Russians, and reject any neutrality in the context of the Ukrainian crisis (**see PDF-2, p. 8**).

Of particular concern is Prof. Kovalenko's endorsement of Serhiy Sternenko's project to supply kamikaze drones to Ukraine (**see PDF-2, pp. 9-10**). It is remarkable that Prof. Kovalenko presents Sternenko as "fully credible and trustworthy," given that Sternenko is a high-ranking figure in Ukrainian neo-Nazi circles following his appointment as head of the "Right Sector" in the Odesa region. Sternenko was sentenced to seven years in prison for kidnapping, complicity in drug trafficking, and premeditated murder. Yet he ultimately received only a one-year suspended sentence for illegal possession of weapons, because his affiliates from the "Right Sector" directly threatened members of the appeal court (**see PDF-2, p. 9**).

Since 2022, Sternenko has been running a fundraising project focused on converting inexpensive civilian FPV drones into "kamikaze" drones by fitting them with explosive payloads or grenade-launching attachments. Because these drones are intended to target individual soldiers on the battlefield, Sternenko named them "Russians slasher" ("Rusoriz") drones, a label that also became the brand name of his fundraising project. This project has an interactive component in the form of video reports recorded by pairs of kamikaze-drone operators confirming kills. Sternenko's X(Twitter) account is filled with hundreds of video reports vividly showcasing usage of "Russians slasher" drones in combat. For instance, Sternenko featured a video in which a kamikaze drone explosion decapitates a Russian soldier, followed by a call for donations (**see PDF-2, p. 10**). Such video feedback allows contributors to receive strong emotional excitement from watching how their donations materialize into a lethal action, which may prompt them to donate more in order to experience such emotions again. Notably, the decapitation video appeared on Sternenko's X(Twitter) account in the same week that Prof. Kovalenko solicited donations for Sternenko's "Russians slasher" project by linking to Sternenko's profile. Consequently, Prof. Kovalenko and any of the more than 1,000 viewers who followed his link had a clear opportunity to view the video and consume its emotional charge.

However, the most alarming detail is that Prof. Kovalenko advocated funding a particular subproject of the "Russians slasher" that relies on minors to assemble "kamikaze" drones (**see PDF-2, p. 10**). Ukrainian neo-Nazis do not shy away from involving minors in their activities, presenting it as a positive form of patriotic upbringing, while in practice using it as a strategy to expand their future ranks. For instance, the "Azov Regiment" and "Right Sector" run boot camps in which children as young as 8 are subjected to ideological indoctrination alongside broad tactical training, including squad-level battlefield drills, reconnaissance, radio procedures, weapons handling, and drone operation (**see PDF-2, p. 11**). Also, the boy holding the red-and-black flag during a Ukrainian rally in Zurich, and raising his right fist near the chest in a ritual gesture associated with Ukrainian neo-Nazis, appears to be under 18 years old (**see PDF-2, p. 3**).

ETH employees publicly calling for donations and making personal donations for the supply of weapons to Ukraine, especially to units associated with war crimes and neo-Nazi ideology, fall to be assessed under Art. 20(1) BPG, Art. 6 of the ETH Professorial Ordinance, Art. 56(2) PVO-ETH and RSETHZ 501.2, which stipulate prior disclosure and approval of activities where reputational risk cannot be excluded (see also RSETHZ 501.2 Art. 11(1)(b) and Appendix 2: Examples \ Reputational Risk), as well as under Art. 22a BPG for compliance with the duty to report any discovered or reported ex officio offences.

Prof. Kovalenko could hardly have been unaware of the controversies surrounding Ukrainian neo-Nazi organizations. As a professor supervising students and junior researchers, he should have been fully aware of ETH's conduct and reputational risk rules. He could have discouraged Dr. Sakhatskyi from wearing a T-shirt with Stepan Bandera's portrait at ETH and refrained from publishing photos of himself and his colleagues featuring Ukrainian neo-Nazi iconography, thereby preventing reputational risk for ETH and avoiding exposing Dr. Sakhatskyi and others to potential disciplinary repercussions. Instead, he has chosen to prioritize repeated signaling of his political alignment with Ukrainian nationalism to relevant political networks. Likewise, given his greater experience and seniority, he could hardly have failed to infer that material

and financial support for military end users in Ukraine is legally restricted under Switzerland's neutrality framework. He could have warned Dr. Shynkarenko and others that such conduct may constitute an ex officio offence and thus be prosecutable, but instead he prioritized his objectives and allowed others to bear part of the resulting legal exposure.

Prof. Kovalenko acknowledges that one of the main political aims of Ukrainian rallies in Switzerland is to pressure Swiss politicians to abandon neutrality and permit the export of Swiss arms to Ukraine. In a post to the Ukrainian expatriate group "Switzerland with Ukraine" (5 March 2023), he expresses disgust toward Ukrainian men for abstaining from attending these rallies while being in Switzerland and not serving in the army, and insists that Ukrainian women likewise owe a duty to their state. He also responds with derogatory remarks to a Swiss woman who commented that such aims disregard Swiss neutrality and abuse Swiss hospitality, portraying her as a naïve pacifist (**see PDF-2, p. 12**). Prof. Kovalenko's expression of disgust toward Ukrainian men in Switzerland rests on his hierarchical framing of duties, according to which they must either join, in his words, "the army or other useful functions in Ukraine" or, failing that, at least show up at the rallies.

His dissatisfaction with Swiss neutrality appears central to his decision to finance the supply of armaments to Ukraine and to encourage others to do the same, as an "underground" overriding of neutrality in advance of the desired, but still lagging, changes in legislation. This dissatisfaction appears to have intensified over time. He published a photo from his attendance at the Ukrainian rally on 23 February 2024, featuring what appears to be his placard bearing the slogan "Swiss neutrality equals Swiss greed!" (see PDF-2, p. 12). Although Switzerland has invested heavily in supporting Ukraine through humanitarian aid, alignment with EU sanctions, and hosting tens of thousands of Ukrainian refugees, Prof. Kovalenko nonetheless appears to cast Switzerland as "greedy" for its unwillingness to send Swiss arms and Swiss soldiers to Ukraine to fight Russia, a scenario he welcomes as beneficial for Ukraine (**see PDF-2, p. 8**). His dissatisfaction then escalates further, to the point that he deems it appropriate to ridicule Swiss authorities as "colored roosters" for arresting Swiss citizen Jona Neidhart, a mercenary allegedly implicated in war crimes, who served in Ukraine's International Legion and 3rd SABr, and whom Prof. Kovalenko, by contrast, admired as a "warrior" (**see PDF-2, p. 13**). As odd as it may sound, the idiomatic phrase "colored rooster" comes from a highly derogatory Ukrainian slang expression for an effeminate, passive homosexual man wearing a dress and makeup, so "colored roosters" should be translated as "colorfully dressed sissy gays" (**see PDF-2, p. 13 for the AI-assisted explanation**). On this framing, Prof. Kovalenko effectively projects a masculinity scale that distributes all Swiss men along a line ranging from "colorfully dressed sissy gays" who support Swiss neutrality (which, according to his placard, is a form of greed) to "warriors," like Jona Neidhart, generous enough to risk their lives for Ukraine. It remains unclear where Prof. Kovalenko places himself on that scale.

It is noteworthy that the mentioned ETH employees (Dr. Shynkarenko, Prof. Kovalenko, Dr. Kästli, Dr. Kravchyk, Dr. Sakhatskyi, Dr. Cherniukh, Dr. Stelmakh, and Dr. Dirin) appear to have promoted fundraising exclusively for the Ukrainian military, but never for humanitarian projects. The most appalling case among their activities is the Prof. Kovalenko's call to finance Sternenko's project in Ukraine, which relies on minors to assemble "kamikaze" drones (**see PDF-2, p. 11**). Although he portrays minors' participation as voluntary, it is widely recognized that minors lack meaningful agency to consent to their involvement in military-related activities. Just as children may not fully grasp the implications of sexual encounters before their legal age of consent, they may not comprehend the true scope of their involvement in warfare-related work and its potential consequences for their morale and mental well-being. For that reason, their labor in producing kamikaze drones cannot be regarded as voluntary and should be treated as compulsory. Therefore, involving children in weapons production violates Article 3(a) of the Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention (No. 182), which prohibits compulsory child labor, as well as Article 3(d), which prohibits work likely to harm a child's health, safety, or morals.

Even if those children never operate the drones in combat (a question that warrants further investigation) assembling them already constitutes indirect participation in hostilities under the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Commentaries on the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions. In contrast to industrial weapons production regulated by the state, the construction of improvised explosive devices by non-state actors could be considered a measure preparatory to a specific military operation and, therefore, qualified as direct participation in hostilities according to the Report of the 4th Expert Meeting on the Notion of Direct Participation in Hostilities (DPH 2006, p. 48-50).

Indeed, if children assemble "kamikaze" drones for a specific unit and are instructed to adapt them for a particular mission based on operators' feedback, this may already meet the threshold for using children to participate directly in hostilities and thus may amount to a war crime under Article 8(2)(b)(xxvi) of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Given that Sternenko attracts donations to his project by posting uncensored footage of successful kills online, there is no reason to think that children involved in producing "kamikaze" drones are shielded from watching combat footage showing the lethal use of the drones they have assembled. Such exposure may awaken children to the reality that they have contributed to lethal outcomes, which may in turn cause lasting trauma, chronic anxiety, depression and may also reinforce violent fantasies or imitation impulses that can culminate in violent behavior in school environments. Under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, every child has the right to be protected from involvement in activities that are likely to harm the child's physical or mental well-being. In contrast, Prof. Kovalenko, who also appears to have financed the project himself, advocates financing a project that violates children's fundamental rights and operates under conditions that could easily amount to war-crime violations.

I cannot advise ETH on the proper course of action, and I recognize that SECO's review must take its course. However, I am genuinely surprised that conduct of this kind has persisted publicly in an ETH environment for several years without any visible intervention from ETH leadership! Whatever the eventual legal outcome, it is deeply alarming that individuals linked to such activities remain under the ETH umbrella while these matters are left unaddressed.

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ETH Zürich: president@ethz.ch; guenther.dissertori@sl.ethz.ch; julia.dannath@sl.ethz.ch; joerg.loeffler@mat.ethz.ch; ccoperet@inorg.chem.ethz.ch; stoffel@biol.ethz.ch; grangera@ethz.ch; olivier.bachmann@eaps.ethz.ch; nicolas.gruber@env.ethz.ch; bt@ethz.ch; brigitta.elhadj@bsse.ethz.ch; thomas.hofmann@inf.ethz.ch; olivier.bachmann@eaps.ethz.ch; whitney.behr@eaps.ethz.ch; stefan.wiemer@sed.ethz.ch; florian.haslinger@sed.ethz.ch; jonas.nakonz@ombudsstelle.ethz.ch; ulrike.schlachter@ombudsstelle.ethz.ch; rainer.borer@hk.ethz.ch; life@hk.ethz.ch; intern-aktuell-news@hk.ethz.ch; martina.bonassera@bc.biol.ethz.ch; arturo.winters@mat.ethz.ch; afarner@ethz.ch; nina.effenberger@env.ethz.ch;
Public Figures and Media Representatives: marco.chiesa@parl.ch; daniel.jositsch@parl.ch; roger.koeppel@weltwoche.ch; markus.somm@nebelspalter.ch; info@stricker.tv; dominik.feusi@nebelspalter.ch; contact@mass-voll.ch; desiree.pomper@20minuten.ch; christine.talos@20minutes.ch; daniel.graf@20minuten.ch; raphaela.birrer@tamedia.ch; philipp.loser@tages-anzeiger.ch; fabian.schaefer@nzz.ch; ladina.triaca@nzz.ch; selina.berner@nzz.ch; eva.novak@tamedia.ch; tobias.bruggmann@ringier.ch; georg.halter@srf.ch; petar.marjanovic@blue.ch; priscilla.imboden@republik.ch; arthur.grosjean@tdg.ch; redaktion@beobachter.ch; contact@swissinfo.ch; antifabern@immerda.ch; contact@antifa.ch; info@antifa.ch; redaktion@nzz.ch; redaktion@tagesanzeiger.ch; redaktion@20minuten.ch; redaktion@chmedia.ch;

Azov – the Nazi battalion

The Azov Battalion was founded as a volunteer militia on May 5, 2014, during the Ukrainian crisis. In June 2014, it gained its first combat experience by recapturing the city of Mariupol from pro-Russian separatists [1]. From the outset, the battalion was composed of nationalist forces and attracted a large number of neo-Nazis from Ukraine and across Europe. From an initial strength of just under 850 fighters, Azov's fighting power grew to over 2,500 people – including a number of foreign mercenaries [2]. Azov is characterized by clear links to National Socialism. The Azov logo features a Wolfsangel, and ideologically, the battalion forms the vanguard of the pan-European movement [3].

Björn (top right) giving a Hitler salute, together with other Azov fighters

Björn in front of Asov's flag

The rise of Azov is a product of the societal upheaval in Ukraine. Right-wing nationalist ideology serves to mobilize for war and has deeply permeated Ukrainian society. This nationalism is the breeding ground for Azov and other nationalist groups, which, thanks to their successes, gain considerable social recognition. As a result, Ukraine has become a place of longing for neo-Nazis from all over Europe.

The Ukrainian movement itself has a strong sense of mission and is ideologically compatible due to the pan-European idea it has shaped [4].

Supporters from Switzerland

Since the beginning of the conflict, militant factions of the Ukrainian right have used their international contacts to gain supporters for their cause. To this end, they have established support organizations that contribute financial, political, and military resources to the struggle. One of these, the "Misanthropic Division," has branches in Western Europe and North America and is considered the most important recruitment network for Azov fighters from abroad [5].

Björn on the right

In western Switzerland, a local branch of the "Misanthropic Division" (MDS) formed as early as spring 2014 [6]. The suspected leader of this group is "Björn Sigvald," a neo-Nazi who has been enthusiastic about martial arts since his youth and is known to the public only by his pseudonym. Björn's biography exemplifies the development of the members of the "Misanthropic Division." From an obsession with combat and loose connections to Ukraine, a personal network of contacts developed, culminating in active involvement on the ground.

Helvetia For Ukraine
February 25, 2024 ·

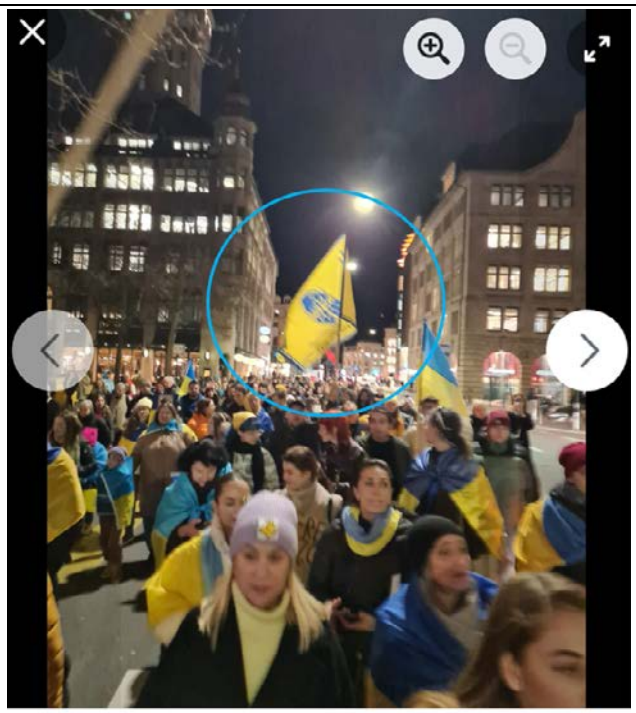
Die Demo vom 23.02.2024 in Bildern: Der Marsch durch Zürich stand unter dem Motto "Defend Freedom, march & act with Ukraine."

Foto Credits: Igor Grigorenko

💙💛

#HelvetiaForUkraine

https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=384390517685979



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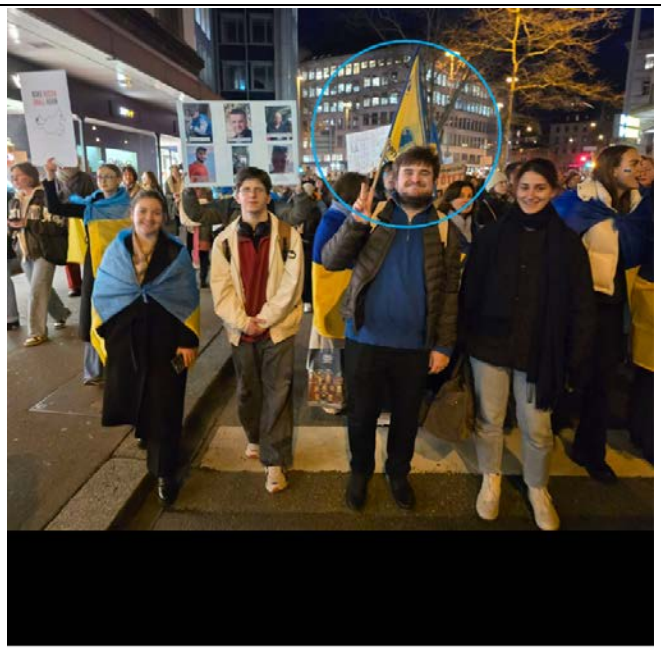
Maksym Kovalenko
February 23, 2024 ·

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10223227570021183



This photo is from a post. View post

Maksym Kovalenko
February 25, 2025 ·

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10225952625465866

Ukrainian night marches in Zurich in February 2023, 2024, and 2025 consistently took place under the flag of the Ukrainian neo-Nazi “Azov Regiment.”

https://www.jungewelt.de/artikel/506646.ukraine-ukraine-über-alles.html

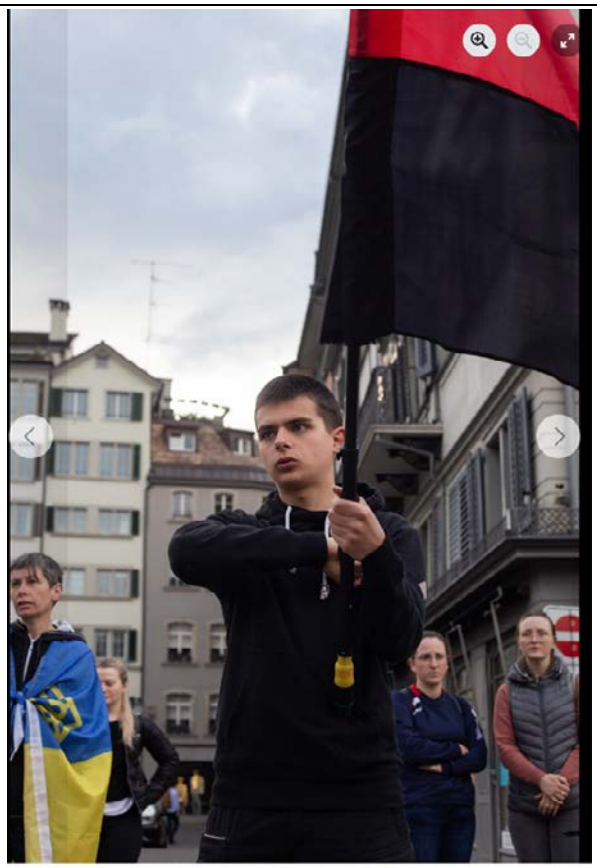
https://www.theleftchapter.com/post/ukraine-über-alles-azov-s-chief-ideologue-whitewashes-ukrainian-fascism

This photo is from a post. View post

UVZO - Ukrainischer Verein Zentral und Ostschweiz
May 8, 2022 ·

— in Zürich, Switzerland.

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1442822776149000
https://archive.md/hZENs



This photo is from a post. View post

Helvetia For Ukraine
May 9, 2023 ·

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=214361981355501
https://archive.md/NFwBU

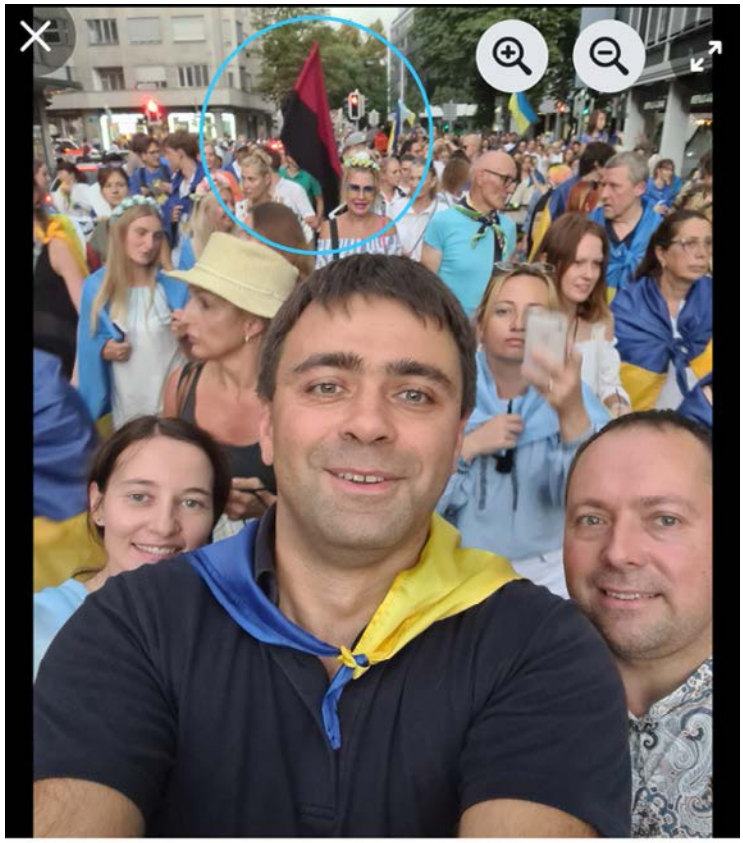
This photo is from a post.

Helvetia For Ukraine
August 26, 2024 ·

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=496627039795659
https://archive.md/jhRua

At the Ukrainian rallies held in Zurich on May 8, 2022, May 8, 2023, and May 8, 2024, red-and-black flags associated with Ukrainian neo-Nazi parties and groups were repeatedly observed. This flag has no official status in Ukraine. It is a characteristic symbol of Stepan Bandera's faction of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN-B) and of its military wing, the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA). It is also used by successor political organizations, such as the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists. The red-and-black flag bearing a white trident is associated with "Right Sector," an alliance of Ukrainian neo-Nazi armed formations that includes, among others, "White Hammer," "S14," "Trident," "UNA-UNSO," the "Ukrainian Volunteer Corps," the "Social-National Assembly," "Centuria," the "Azov Regiment," and the "Misanthropic Division."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organisation_of_Ukrainian_Nationalists
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ukrainian_Insurgent_Army
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right_Sector



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Maksym Kovalenko
August 24, 2023 ·

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10222402722360507
https://archive.md/GUDoe

Prof. Maksym Kovalenko (ETH, UASAZ):
https://kovalenkolab.ethz.ch/people/prof_dr_maksym_kovalenko.html

Stepan Bandera – the 1st Supreme Leader of the OUN-B

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stepan_Bandera
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organisation_of_Ukrainian_Nationalists

Slava Stetsko – the 5th Supreme Leader of the OUN-B und Founder of CUN

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slava_Stetsko
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Congress_of_Ukrainian_Nationalists
https://mronline.org/2022/06/13/how-monsters-who-beat-jews-to-death-in-1944-became-americas-favorite-freedom-fighters-in-1945/

The Bandera faction of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN-B) collaborated with Nazi Germany during World War II, and its members formed the SS Grenadier Division "Galicia," the "Nachtigall" and "Roland" battalions within the Abwehr, and the Ukrainian Auxiliary Police (Schutzmannschaft). During the war, the OUN-B and its military wing, the "Ukrainian Insurgent Army," carried out ethnic cleansing of Jewish and Polish populations in Ukraine, known as the Volhynia Massacres. After the war, the OUN-B leadership fled to the United States, Canada, and Western Europe, where it operated within the Ukrainian diaspora under the guise of cultural and charitable organizations. Shortly after Ukraine's independence in 1991, the 5th Supreme Leader of the OUN-B, Slava Stetsko (then 73 years old), a party member since its founding and a close confidante of Bandera, returned to Ukraine and founded the OUN-B successor party "Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists" as well as its paramilitary wing "Trident", which in 2013 merged Ukrainian neo-Nazi organizations into the "Right Sector".

Feb 2, 2021 Edward Reid 0
The Wołyń massacre: Over 100,000 slaughtered with axes, pitchforks, scythes, and knives
Between 1943 and 1945, members of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army massacred thousands of Poles throughout Wolyn, a region that was in Nazi-German occupied Poland and is part of present-day Ukraine.
Throughout the period, it is estimated that around 100,000 Poles died at the hands of Ukrainian nationalists.

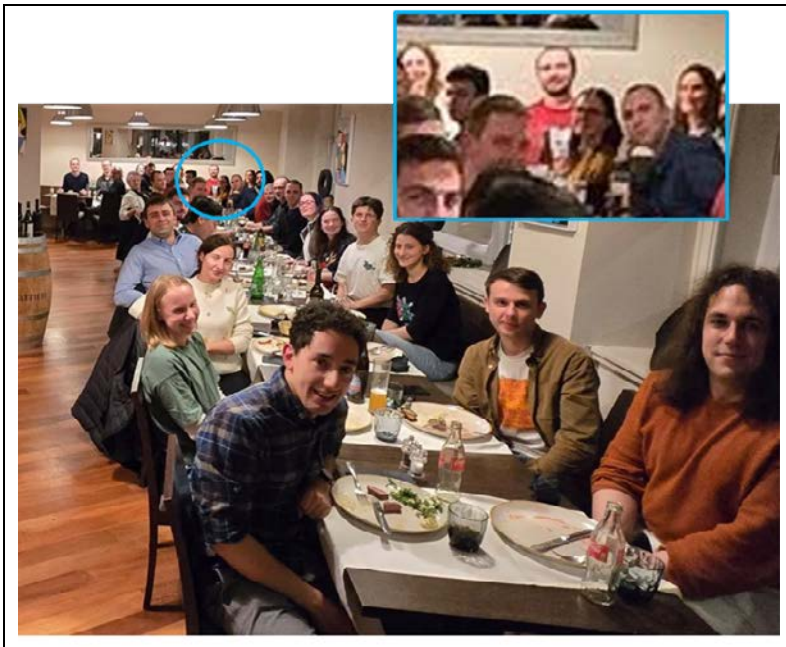
https://polishtruth.com/article/view/101/the-wolyn-massacre-over-100000-slaughtered-with-axes-pitchforks-scythes-and-knives.html
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Massacres_of_Poles_in_Volhynia_and_Eastern_Galicia

СЛАВА УКРАЇНІ
The red and black banner with golden tridents and the slogan "Glory of Ukraine" is the emblem of the Ukrainian neo-Nazi organization "Trident", which was founded in honor of Stepan Bandera and functions as the paramilitary wing of the "Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists" party.
This photo is from a post.
View post
Maksym Kovalenko
March 5, 2022 ·

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10219798232249882
https://archive.md/Zq6gN

Portrait of Stepan Bandera, the 1st Supreme Leader of the Organisation of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN-B).
This photo is from a post.
View post
Maksym Kovalenko
June 6, 2023 ·

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10221956495165106
https://archive.md/ZKmrG



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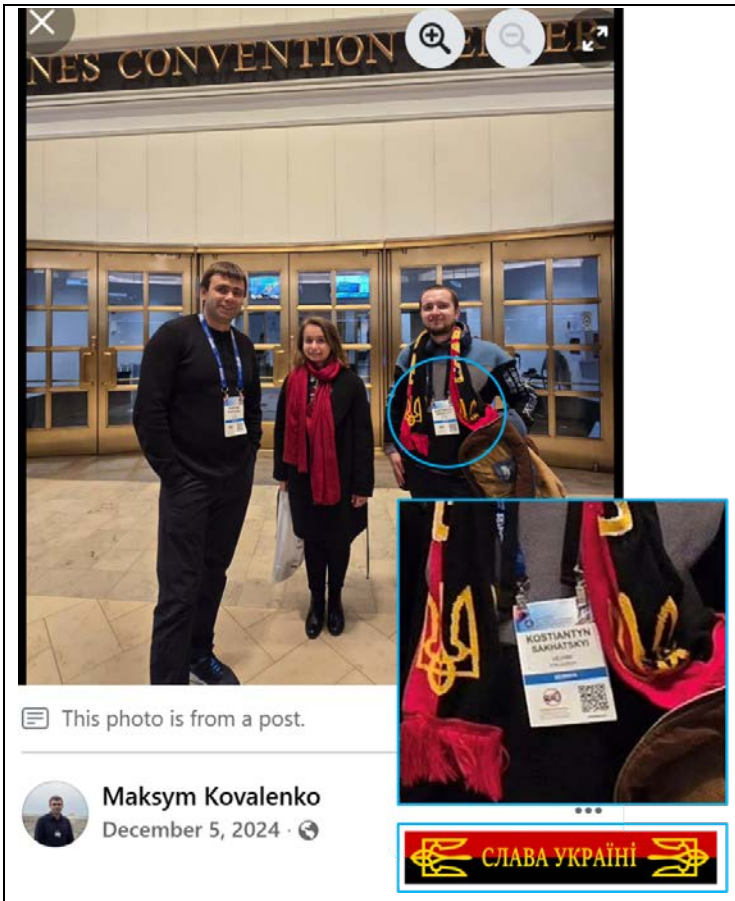
https://archive.md/1L9wS

https://publishing.localhistory.org.ua/product/futbolka-batko-nash-bandera-chervona/

Prof. Maksym Kovalenko (ETH): https://kovalenkolab.ethz.ch/people/prof_dr_maksym_kovalenko.html
Dr. Kostiantyn Sakhatskyi (ETH): https://kovalenkolab.ethz.ch/people/research_fellows.html
UASAZ: https://uasaz.org/#board https://uasaz.org/#our-sponsors

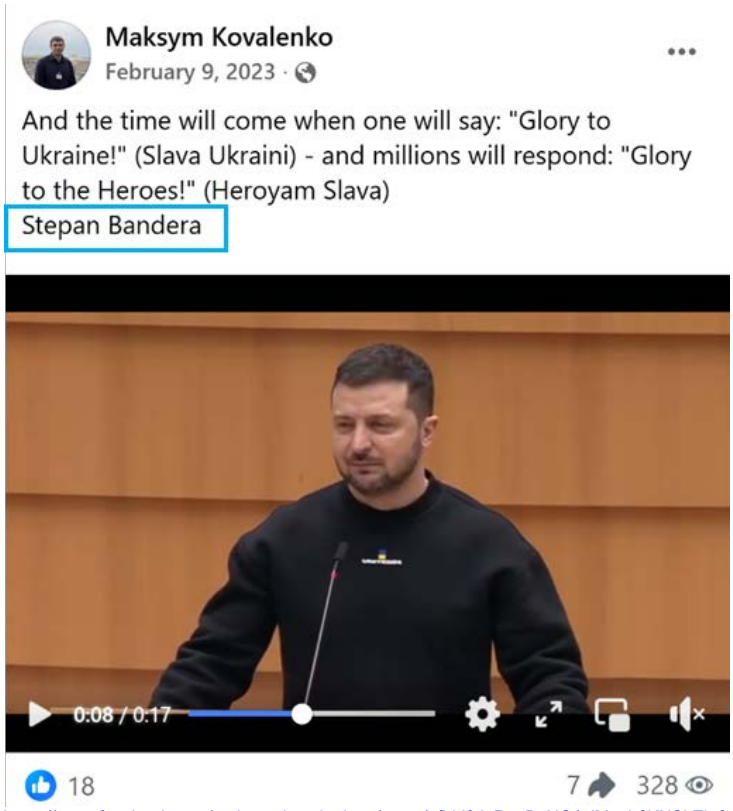


https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10225457234001389
https://archive.md/7PMnc

Maksym Kovalenko
August 25, 2023 ·
24 August 2023
Independence Day of Ukraine in Zurich!
GLORY TO UKRAINE! Death to the Enemies!
"Glory to Ukraine – Death to the enemies!" is a ritual slogan of Bandera's OUN-B party, inherited by Ukrainian neo-Nazis.
+13
108
3
6

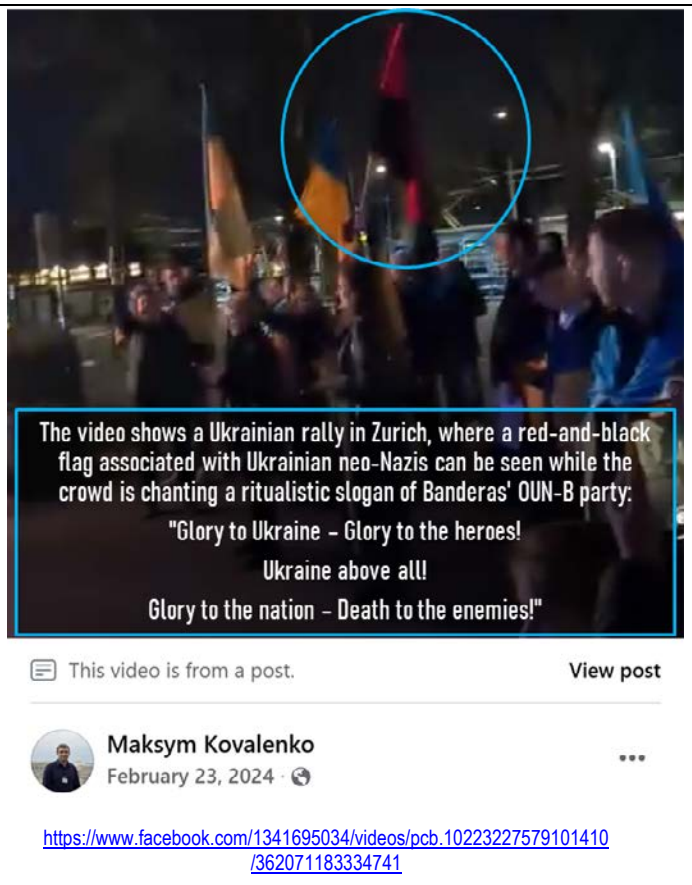
https://www.facebook.com/maksym.kovalenko.7/posts/pfbid0KaPuovGmdgoaETk98fZkcKskvb7cgfkTSYeSiFieS3tY1JEo1TviqxI8muFhCKzBl

https://archive.md/mzaMG

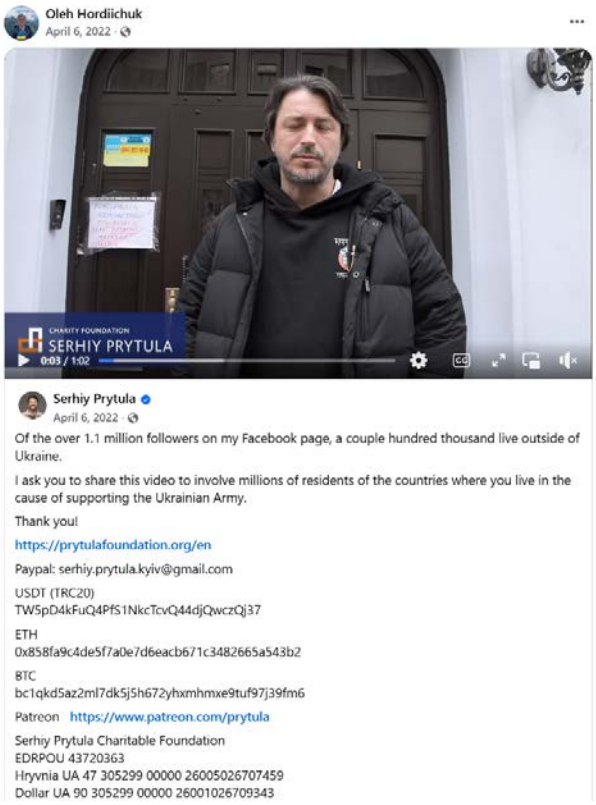

Maksym Kovalenko
February 9, 2023 ·
And the time will come when one will say: "Glory to Ukraine!" (Slava Ukraini) - and millions will respond: "Glory to the Heroes!" (Heroyam Slava)
Stepan Bandera
0:08 / 0:17
18
7
328

https://www.facebook.com/maksym.kovalenko.7/posts/pfbid0J5RzaBpNC4qjMnvh6KUSkEi5616M4XUracnvmTQzthqDmUtxrr69xe9wSevc9z3Rl

https://archive.md/gYsmY


The video shows a Ukrainian rally in Zurich, where a red-and-black flag associated with Ukrainian neo-Nazis can be seen while the crowd is chanting a ritualistic slogan of Banderas' OUN-B party:
"Glory to Ukraine – Glory to the heroes!
Ukraine above all!
Glory to the nation – Death to the enemies!"
This video is from a post.
View post
Maksym Kovalenko
February 23, 2024 ·

https://www.facebook.com/1341695034/videos/pcb.10223227579101410/362071183334741


Oleh Hordiichuk
April 6, 2022 ·
CHARITY FOUNDATION
SERHIY PRYTULA
0:03 / 1:02
Serhiy Prytula
April 6, 2022 ·
Of the over 1.1 million followers on my Facebook page, a couple hundred thousand live outside of Ukraine.
I ask you to share this video to involve millions of residents of the countries where you live in the cause of supporting the Ukrainian Army.
Thank you!
https://prytulafoundation.org/en
Paypal: serhiy.prytula.kyiv@gmail.com
USDT (TRC20)
TW5pD4kFuQ4PfS1NkcTcvQ44djQwczQj37
ETH
0x858fa9c4de5f7a0e7d6eacb671c3482665a543b2
BTC
bc1qkd5az2ml7dk5j5h672yhxmhmxe9tuf97j39fm6
Patreon https://www.patreon.com/prytula
Serhiy Prytula Charitable Foundation
EDRPOU 43720363
Hryvnia UA 47 305299 00000 26005026707459
Dollar UA 90 305299 00000 26001026709343

https://www.facebook.com/o.hordiichuk/posts/pfbid02KVSLam1df561GYNn9ihH3N2VS9itCvbFgYquNgDwhrWXWrvaLN72CHob1ij1KF2Pl

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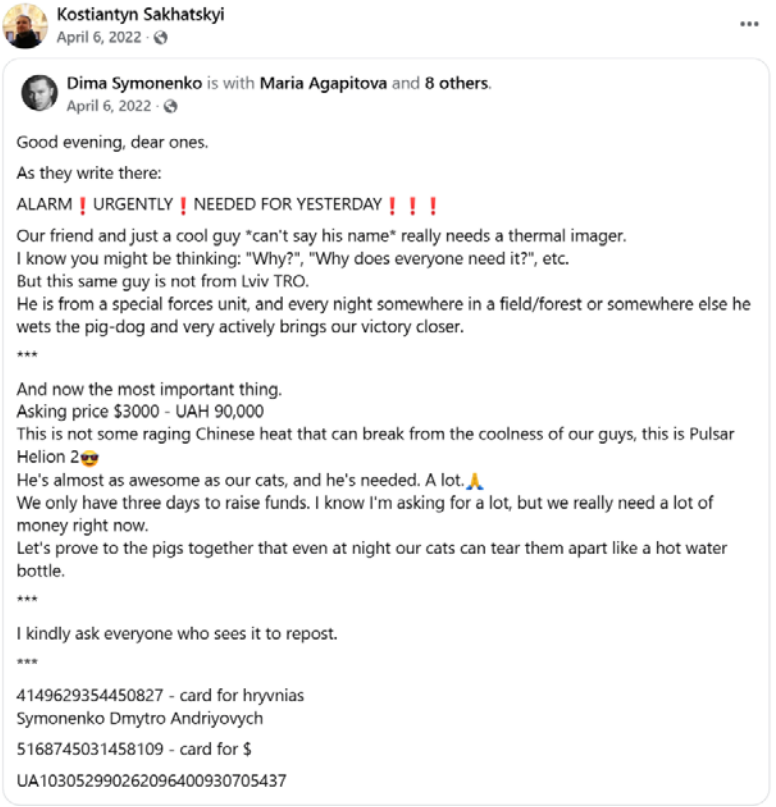
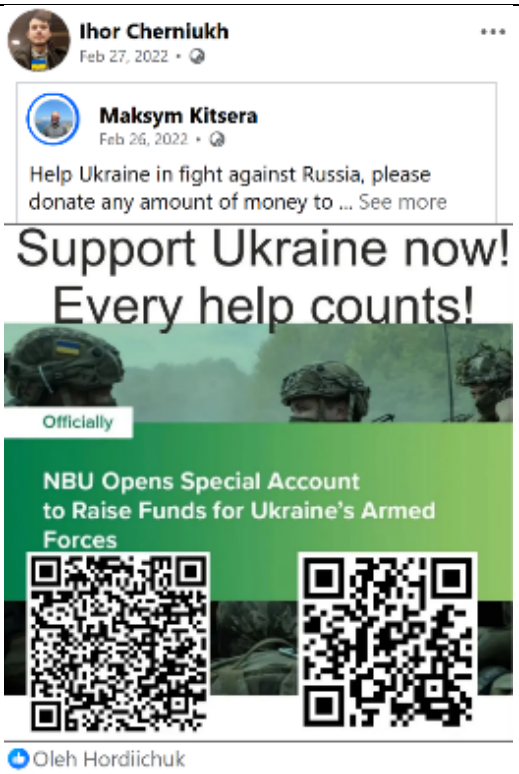

Kostiantyn Sakhatskyi
April 6, 2022 ·
Dima Symonenko is with Maria Agapitova and 8 others.
April 6, 2022 ·
Good evening, dear ones.
As they write there:
ALARM ❗ URGENTLY ❗ NEEDED FOR YESTERDAY ❗ ❗ ❗
Our friend and just a cool guy *can't say his name* really needs a thermal imager.
I know you might be thinking: "Why?", "Why does everyone need it?", etc.
But this same guy is not from Lviv TRO.
He is from a special forces unit, and every night somewhere in a field/forest or somewhere else he wets the pig-dog and very actively brings our victory closer.
***
And now the most important thing.
Asking price $3000 - UAH 90,000
This is not some raging Chinese heat that can break from the coolness of our guys, this is Pulsar Helion 2😎
He's almost as awesome as our cats, and he's needed. A lot.🙏
We only have three days to raise funds. I know I'm asking for a lot, but we really need a lot of money right now.
Let's prove to the pigs together that even at night our cats can tear them apart like a hot water bottle.
***
I kindly ask everyone who sees it to repost.
***
4149629354450827 - card for hryvnias
Symonenko Dmytro Andriyovych
5168745031458109 - card for $
UA103052990262096400930705437

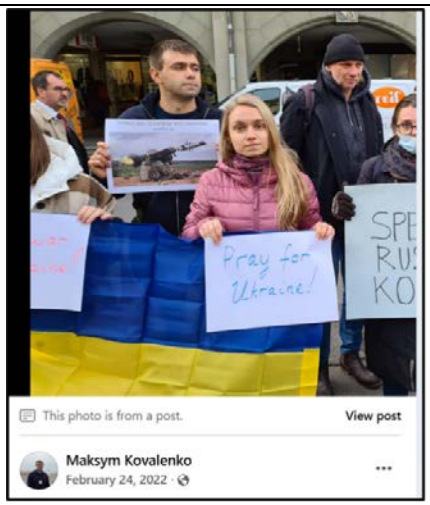
https://www.facebook.com/kostia.sahatski/posts/pfbid026SAzUX7xz3Ewo8uyvHSsjcuUSq3t8hU9iVTJTAiNC9p3NWV9vQuoKRWinnvFCCVnl

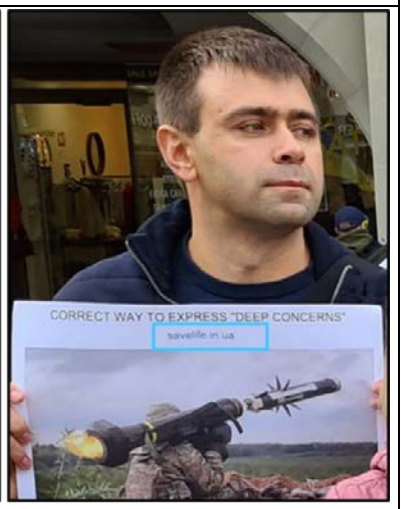
https://archive.md/2XZKR

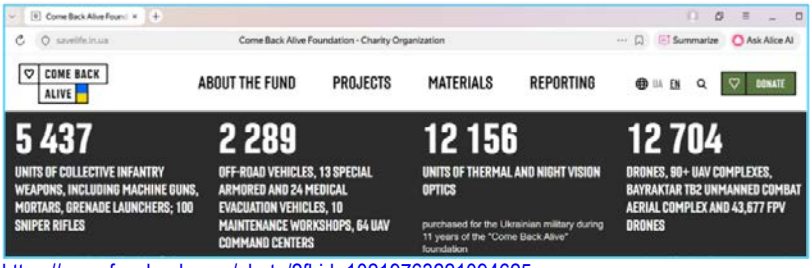

Ihor Cherniukh
Feb 27, 2022 ·
Maksym Kitsera
Feb 26, 2022 ·
Help Ukraine in fight against Russia, please donate any amount of money to ... See more
Support Ukraine now!
Every help counts!
Officially
NBU Opens Special Account to Raise Funds for Ukraine's Armed Forces
Oleh Hordiichuk

https://www.facebook.com/ihorcherniuh/posts/pfbid02FQ4GTjycJoGrq79RuTFkxp3VFfgnA1JCn1tKA2FZWGUTdXTjsac6ZqAQ6iejGfEul

https://archive.md/izr2v






Come Back Alive Foundation - Charity Organization
COME BACK ALIVE
ABOUT THE FUND
PROJECTS
MATERIALS
REPORTING
DONATE
5 437
UNITS OF COLLECTIVE INFANTRY WEAPONS, INCLUDING MACHINE GUNS, MORTARS, GRENADE LAUNCHERS; 100 SNIPER RIFLES
2 289
OFF-ROAD VEHICLES, 13 SPECIAL ARMORED AND 24 MEDICAL EVACUATION VEHICLES, 10 MAINTENANCE WORKSHOPS, 64 UAV COMMAND CENTERS
12 156
UNITS OF THERMAL AND NIGHT VISION OPTICS
purchased for the Ukrainian military during 11 years of the "Come Back Alive" foundation
12 704
DRONES, 90+ UAV COMPLEXES, BAYRAKTAR TB2 UNMANNED COMBAT AERIAL COMPLEX AND 43,677 FPV DRONES

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10219763221094625

https://archive.md/C3fi0

https://savelife.in.ua

Prof. Maksym Kovalenko (ETH, EMPA): https://kovalenkolab.ethz.ch/people/prof_dr_maksym_kovalenko.html
Dr. Kostiantyn Sakhatskyi (ETH): https://kovalenkolab.ethz.ch/people/research_fellows.html
Dr. Ihor Cherniukh (ETH: 2018-2024): https://kovalenkolab.ethz.ch/people/alumni.html
Dr. Andriy Stelmakh (ETH): https://kovalenkolab.ethz.ch/people/research_fellows.html

Dmitry Dirin reposted

Дмитрий Навоша
@navosha

Translated from Russian Show original

Support the Ukrainian fund "Come Back Alive" – the most well-known of those supporting those who are currently standing against the aggression. They are fighting because we failed to stop this nightmare: savelife.in.ua/ru/donate/

10:18 AM · Feb 24, 2022

Relevant people

Dmitry Dirin
@DmitryDirin

Дмитрий Навоша
@navosha
Издатель @tribunaua

https://x.com/DmitryDirin/status/1496760384316837891

https://archive.md/uTSnM

Dr. Dmitry Dirin (ETH): https://kovalenkolab.ethz.ch/people/person-detail.MTk2NDU2.TGlzdC8xODk0LC03MzQxNjI1MTk=.html

Maksym Kovalenko
March 8, 2023 ·

You are (or had been until at least 2014!) a russian citizen or work in russia? You consider yourself not guilty directly or indirectly for mass-murder of Ukrainians (since 2014, and especially 2022)? And this may well be true.
However, regardless of guilt, you share responsibility (through citizenship as belonging to the state, or working for the state).
Denying responsibility makes you guilty already. Do not fall in that common trap of denying reality.
As simple as that.

What acting responsibly means and entails?
Not looking sorry/ashamed/awkward when meeting Ukrainians (you do not feel guilty, right?).

Acting! There is an unlimited spectrum of well-defined actions to take: donation for UA army, protests, undermining the ability of RU to buy/build/kill, counteracting RU-propaganda (after exterminating any trace of RU fascist ideology in oneself such as belief in "RU-UA brotherhood") and many more.

12 7 comments 1 share

https://www.facebook.com/maksym.kovalenko.7/posts/pfbid033za6DRvjRHhEZs6f3EY3DoqdfAwJvRhpCYoEEhT1PHyQfwhsEJQ7tZjwDaEGWrcCl

https://archive.md/Ozmg7

Maksym Kovalenko
March 4, 2024 ·

As a person living in Europe, I cannot completely agree with the author here.
Freezing in all its variants is most beneficial for Russia. I believe that 2 weeks after the freeze, all European politicians and their population will switch to business as usual.
The most advantageous scenario for Ukraine is actually an escalation of direct confrontation between Russia and Europe/USA. I can't wait for World War III where not only Ukraine defends the democratic world.
[If Tauruses are supplied, they should hit the Kremlin with them, not the bridge]

Valery Pekar
March 3, 2024

The prospect of freezing the war?

https://www.facebook.com/maksym.kovalenko.7/posts/pfbid02XQQN4WdBrgz8bSSTHt6vwUYn5GCh2DdieSrJuKrGbGakKNppmaAAhDS7ATRaqzWDl

https://archive.md/qb3s2

Since Dr. Dirin called for donations to the Ukrainian army, it is reasonable to infer that he also contributed financially himself. This renders his case particularly noteworthy, especially in view of his Russian nationality. Donations to the Ukrainian army are considered treason in Russia and can be punished with imprisonment of up to 15 years.

Given these exceptionally serious personal risks, it is reasonable to suppose that he may have acted under perceived pressure to demonstrate political conformity in an environment where his superior, Professor Kovalenko, and a disproportionately large number of group members are Ukrainian citizens who largely share extreme political views.

Indeed, Professor Kovalenko makes it unequivocally clear that he allows no room for neutrality in the context of the Ukraine crisis. He ascribes a collective responsibility to all Russians regardless of personal guilt and suggests that even attempting to remain neutral makes one guilty already. He then presents donations to the Ukrainian army as a means by which a "responsible" Russian could alleviate this supposed guilt.

Furthermore, Professor Kovalenko extends this rejection of neutrality by declaring that he "can hardly wait for World War III," in which not only Ukraine, but also the USA and Europe , apparently including Switzerland, will be directly at war with Russia.

Maksym Kovalenko
@mvkovalenko

Pissed by the trumpists blocking the bipartisan bill (borders/Israel/Ukraine)? Donate for drones.

With an acute shortage of ammunition (thanks to the Trumpists), the Ukrainian military needs all the help it can get. To defend existing defensive lines, the military is increasingly dependent on supplies of fpv drones. Such drones are quickly expended (used as both kamikaze bombers and for reconnaissance.

Serhii Sternenko and his team are fully credible and trustable. They have already collected funds and purchased more than 35 000 drones since the beginning of the war.

send.monobank.ua/jar/dzBdJ3737
or
PayPal - sternenkopaypal@gmail.com

Serhii Sternenko @sternenko · Feb 7
Ще 180 ваших дронів прибули на фронт!

+50 товстих FPV для 93 ОМБр.
+30 FPV для 122 бригади Тероборони.
+50 товстих FPV для 501 ОБМП. ...
Show more

11:48 PM · Feb 7, 2024 from Zurich, Switzerland · **1,129** Views

https://twitter.com/mvkovalenko/status/1755378142447870296

https://archive.md/APixw

Professor Kovalenko promotes Serhii Sternenko's fundraising project aimed at converting inexpensive civilian drones into "kamikaze" drones by equipping them with explosives or grenade launcher attachments. Because such drones are designed to attack individual soldiers on the battlefield, Sternenko dubbed them "Russian Slashers" ("Rusoriz"). This term also became the brand name of the fundraising project. The project includes an interactive component in the form of video reports of succesfull kills recorded by kamikaze drone operators. Sternenko's Twitter account is filled with hundreds of such video reports, vividly documenting the use of these "Russian Slashers" in combat. For example, the evidence on page 10 shows a tweet in which Sternenko shares a video depicting the decapitation of a Russian soldier by the explosion of a kamikaze drone. Such video feedback allows donors to experience strong emotional excitement by seeing how their donations specifically contribute to a lethal act, which may prompt them to donate again in order to relive such emotions.

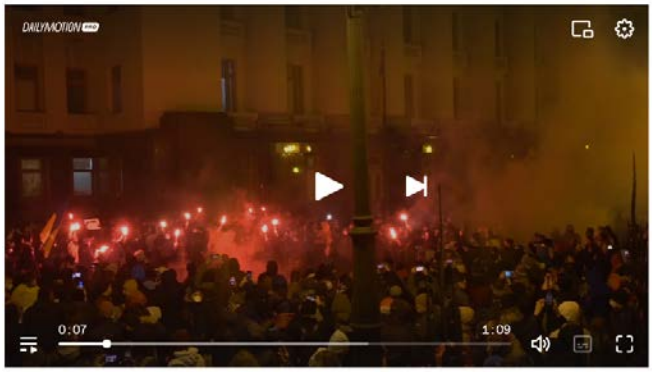
https://www.sternenkofund.org/en/fundraisings/rusoriz

Serhii Sternenko, whom Professor Kovalenko describes as "fully credible and trustworthy," is a high-ranking figure in Ukrainian neo-Nazi circles since his appointment as head of the "Right Sector" in the Odessa region. Sternenko was sentenced to seven years in prison for kidnapping, aiding and abetting drug trafficking, and premeditated murder. However, he ultimately received only a one-year suspended sentence for illegal possession of weapons after the "Right Sector" directly threatened members of the appeals court.

https://www.rferl.org/a/ukraine-sternenko-prison-release-/31283650.html

euronews. Latest Europe World EU Policy Business Travel Next Culture Green Health

Ukraine: Far-right activists demonstrate in Kyiv in support of jailed ex-leader



Copyright Euronews

By Phillip Andrew Churm
Published on 21/03/2021 - 12:59 GMT+1 • Updated 13:32

https://www.rferl.org/a/ukraine-sternenko-prison-release-/31283650.html

Maksym Kovalenko
@mvkovalenko

Every time the human greed blocks a vital support for Ukraine (weapons) - Ukrainian soldiers retreat by few km. And the russist horde comes by a few km closer to you. And there is just ca. 1000 km left...
The photos below show that the school pupils (in the region I studied chemistry in Ukraine - Chernivtsi) - desperately, and fully commited, try to help the army by assembling the fpv kamikaze drones. After the artillery, this is the most important mean of defense.. each drone can carry and drop a small bomb onto the tank and armored vehicle of the murderers.
Help them! How?:
-by donating for such drones (for better ones)
-by taking part in the political events, demonstration and taking any step telling your politicians that you care for Ukraine more than they think.
To donate:
send.monobank.ua/jar/dzBdJ3737
PayPal - sternenkopaypal@gmail.com
More here: x.com/sternenko?s=20

8:26 PM · Feb 19, 2024 from Zurich, Switzerland · **1,041** Views

https://twitter.com/mvkovalenko/status/1759675951208665151

https://archive.md/06b6x

Serhii Sternenko
@sternenko
Follow

Translated from Ukrainian Show original

21+, I warned you.

Drone has fucked the head off!
Near Avdiivka, warriors of the Strike Drones Company eliminated yet another Russian.

You have to pay to watch such videos.
From you, 2 hryvnia for the Russians slasher!

Rate this translation:

6:15 PM · Feb 26, 2024 · **60K** Views

52 141 1.5K 24

Serhii Sternenko... @sternen... · Feb 26, 2024

> **Serhii Sternenko ...** @sternen... · Oct 18, 2023
> Replying to @sternenko
> Throw donations to FPV!
> Bank send.monobank.ua/jar/dzBdJ3737
>
> Privat 5168745030910761

2 11 82 12K

https://x.com/sternenko/status/1762134266186506328

- § **Problematic core issue:** Prof. Kovalenko calls to finance Sternenko's project, which involves the assembly of "kamikaze" drones by minors.
- § **Voluntariness:** Since minors lack the capacity to consent regarding their involvement in military-related activities, their participation cannot therefore be considered voluntary, and should be regarded as forced.
- § **Child labor (Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, No. 182):** The involvement of children in arms production violates Article 3(a) (prohibition of forced child labor) and Article 3(d) (prohibition of work likely to harm a child's health, safety, or morals).
- § **Direct participation in hostilities:** Unlike state-regulated industrial weapons production, the non-state production of improvised explosive devices can be considered preparation for specific operations and thus regarded as direct participation in hostilities (4th Exp. Meeting DPH 2006, pp. 48–50). If children build drones for specific units and adapt them for specific missions based on operator feedback, this can already be considered the use of children for direct participation in hostilities, which may amount to a war crime under Article 8(2)(b)(xxvi) of the Rome Statute.
- § **Exposure to uncensored violent material:** Since Sternenko attracts donations for his project by posting uncensored footage of successful killings online, it is unlikely that children involved in the production of the "kamikaze" drones are protected from viewing combat footage depicting the deadly use of the drones they have assembled. Such exposure can confront children with the reality that they have contributed to fatal consequences, which in turn can trigger lasting trauma, chronic anxiety, and depression, and reinforce violent fantasies or imitation impulses that may lead to violent behavior in school environment.
- § **Children's rights violation:** According to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, every child has the right to be protected from participation in activities that are likely to harm the child's physical or mental well-being. In contrast, Prof. Kovalenko, who apparently also financed the project himself, supports the financing of a project that violates the fundamental rights of children and operates under conditions that could easily constitute war crimes.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CpV16BQfbrQ

PHOTOS

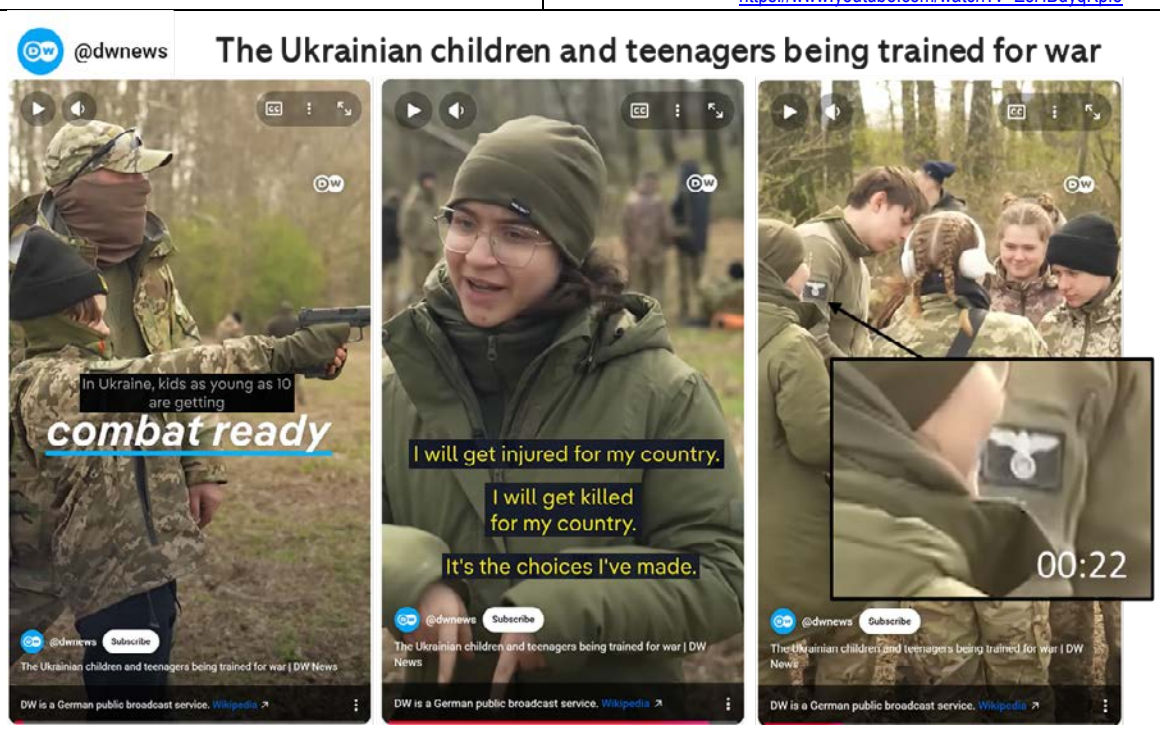
Inside Ukraine's paramilitary camp for children

By Emil Lendof
Published Aug. 4, 2017, 4:46 p.m. ET

https://nypost.com/2017/08/04/inside-ukraines-paramilitary-camp-for-children/

AP
HOME PROJECTS RUSSIA UKRAINE WAR THE SHOT HISTORICAL SITE ARCHIVE
Training kids to kill at Ukrainian nationalist camp
Yuri Cherkashin, head of the youth wing of the Ukrainian Nationalist Party "Svoboda", is an instructor at a training camp for children as young as eight. He is a veteran of the fight against pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine. "We never aim weapons at people," he tells the camp participants. "But separatists... we don't consider them people, so we can and should aim at them."
AP
To train children to defend their country from Russians and to spread nationalist ideology.
AP
Nationalist camp in Ukraine trains kids to kill
Subscribe

https://apimagesblog.com/blog/2018/11/12/training-kids-to-kill-at-ukrainian-nationalist-camp
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EsHBdyqKpfo


@dwnews
The Ukrainian children and teenagers being trained for war
In Ukraine, kids as young as 10 are getting
combat ready
I will get injured for my country.
I will get killed for my country.
It's the choices I've made.
00:22
Subscribe
The Ukrainian children and teenagers being trained for war | DW News
DW is a German public broadcast service. Wikipedia

https://youtube.com/shorts/WaszKLSO9-c?si=LeiLyDiuXga4fXDp

Switzerland with Ukraine
Maksym Kovalenko · March 6, 2023 ·

Dear Ukrainians in Switzerland!
I apologize in advance, for some this is deserved criticism. For others it doesn't apply. Those who agree - please share or talk to your friends.
Yesterday there was an important rally in Bern, because parliamentarians and all the media were there. Despite the generally good numbers, I am convinced that there were significantly fewer Ukrainians there than there could have been.
A rally is an important, effective tool in democratic countries.
It has a real impact, for example, on decisions such as the export of weapons to Ukraine, humanitarian aid to Ukraine, and the reduction of financial services for Russia in Switzerland.
All rallies are important, including those held locally in cities. But in the capital - even more so!
In this regard, the following thoughts:
- Many of us, who have been here for a long time or are new arrivals, all of us who have not renounced our Ukrainian passports, have an ABSOLUTE civic duty to be present at such rallies. Absence is only for good reasons (illness, children, some business promised to others, etc.), and as an exception, not as a rule.
- I will use a strong word: DISGUST those young men who, being here (and not in the army or other useful functions in Ukraine), cannot come to the rally!
And the same people often do not participate in other things for the benefit of Ukraine. Distract yourself from sleep, pornography, food, drink, computer games, sports or other entertainment, or whatever keeps you there in those hours, body and soul, not with Ukraine.
- I am less critical of women, because I see much more of them at such events (and in general - involved for Ukraine). But in general, the same arguments - you also owe it to your state.
- I know that for some refugees it's banal financial reasons - you often have to spend a hundred francs to go to a rally. But here's an observation (think about it): in FB groups, questions are often posted about "driving to or from Ukraine," but not about "driving to a rally." I'm sure that many people drive cars, it's really much cheaper, and you can take it with you.
And since you have to spend money - remember, someone at that moment gave their life and not 100 francs.
- now, if you are a person who does not need to read this (I hope the absolute majority), then there is one thing you can do - do not remain silent when you see the opposite. Talk to people, offer to join in the work for the benefit of Ukraine, be a person who will have something to be proud of.

Rallies and other joint activities are a fantastic opportunity for emotional and cultural unity. I know that some people can only cope with stress by doing something useful for Ukraine and Ukrainians.

Hide original·Rate this translation

351 84 comments 31 shares

Francoise Bischofberger
Herzlich willkommen in unserem NEUTRALEN Land! Vielleicht denkt Ihr mal darüber nach?
2y Like See translation Share 7

Yevheniy Protsyuk
Francoise Bille nach was genau sollen wir drüber denken, lieber empty-Profile-ghost-User? Eventuell über wie stark ist das Begriff NEUTRALITAET durch Jahrzehnten missbraucht und manipulativ eingesetzt wird? Hier ist genau der Fall!
2y Like See translation Share

Francoise Bischofberger
Yevgeniy Protsyuk empty profile? Gehts noch?
2y Like See translation Share

Bruno Riedener
Francoise Bille Was soll das dämliche Neutralitätsgelaber. Helfen und unterstützen ist angesagt, und nicht kneifen! Wenn Sie das nicht wollen, so sind Sie in dieser Gruppe - meiner Meinung nach - falsch.
2y Like See translation Share

Francoise Bischofberger
Bruno Riedener Empathie und Hilfe in der Not ist das eine - in Kriegsgeschehen eingreifen das andere. Und weshalb sollte ich in der Gruppe falsch sein? Weil ich eine andere Meinung habe als Sie?
2y Like See translation Share

Bruno Riedener
Francoise Bille Unter Hilfe in der Not ist auch die Waffenlieferung anzusehen. Alles andere ist Beihilfe zu Mord, Vergewaltigung, Folter, Entführung und Diebstahl, sprich Unterstützung von Russland. Dies ist auch nicht Neutralität. Ende der Diskussion, danke.
2y Like See translation Share

Francoise Bischofberger
Bruno Riedener Nein, das ist es nicht, auch wenn Du das nicht wahrhaben willst. Es gibt für alle von Dir gebrauchten Begriffe klare Definitionen - daran ändert auch Deine Polemik nichts.
2y Like See translation Share

Maksym Kovalenko
Francoise Bille look, we are not here to discuss pacifism. Here clearly none will agree.
You are pacifist because someone is protecting you at this very moment.
2y Like Share

Francoise Bischofberger
Maksym Kovalenko und Ihr missbraucht mit solchen Aufforderungen unsere Gastfreundschaft
2y Like See translation Share

https://www.facebook.com/groups/529855118408513/posts/761994851861204
https://archive.md/EiQh2

This photo is from a post. View post

Maksym Kovalenko
February 24, 2024 ·

https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10223231816887352

According to Professor Kovalenko, one of the central political goals of Ukrainian rallies in Switzerland is to pressure Swiss politicians into abandoning neutrality and allowing the export of Swiss weapons to Ukraine. He expressed disgust towards Ukrainian men in Switzerland who did not participate in such rallies, even though they were not performing military service. He also spoke disparagingly of a Swiss woman who argued that such goals disregarded Swiss neutrality and abused Swiss hospitality, calling her a naive pacifist.

He expressed his dissatisfaction with Swiss neutrality, among other things, by publishing a photo of a poster with the inscription "Swiss neutrality means Swiss greed!" while ignoring Switzerland's humanitarian aid, its alignment with EU sanctions, and its acceptance of Ukrainian refugees. Furthermore, he verbally insulted Swiss authorities for arresting Swiss citizen Jona Neidhart – a mercenary who served in the Ukrainian International Legion and the «3rd SABr» and was allegedly involved in war crimes (see p. 13).

Maksym Kovalenko
@mvkovalenko

Translated by Grok Show original

@grntmedia Because they are colored roosters, in contrast to a warrior

SOIL
@grntmedia

A Swiss man who fought for Ukraine for two years was arrested by authorities in Bern — now he faces up to three years in prison.

Swiss John Neidhart joined the ranks of the International Legion of the Armed Forces of Ukraine in March 2022. He survived the shelling of the Yavoriv training ground, went through the Kharkiv… https://t.co/YfKctzpZIe

Sat Jun 15 2024 11:48:18 GMT+0200 (Central European Summer Time)

Sat Jun 15 2024 13:18:14 GMT+0200 (Central European Summer Time)

https://web.archive.org/web/20240615111814/https://twitter.com/mvkovalenko/status/1801937253402652908

ChatGPT

Explain what @mvkovalenko's comment means in response to @grntmedia's news announcement, taking into account that the comment was originally written in Ukrainian and then translated into English in a literal, word-for-word manner. Clarify what "colored rooster" can convey in Ukrainian slang, in contrast to a warrior, and reconstruct the intended meaning of the comment in light of that nuance.

@grntmedia: A Swiss man who fought for Ukraine for two years was arrested by authorities in Bern — now he faces up to three years in prison. Swiss John Neidhart joined the ranks of the International Legion of the Armed Forces of Ukraine in March 2022.

@mvkovalenko: Because they are colored roosters, in contrast to a warrior.

Thought for 1m 2s ›

@mvkovalenko is **praising John Neidhart as a "warrior"** and **insulting the Swiss authorities** who arrested him. The literal wording ("colored roosters") is a word-for-word rendering, but the *intended* meaning is not about birds—it's a culturally loaded slur.

A natural reconstruction in English is:

- **"Because they're colorfully dressed sissy gays, unlike a warrior."** *(derogatory, homophobic)*

Why "colored roosters" points to that meaning (in Ukrainian usage)

1) "Rooster" is slang for "passive homosexual man" in Ukrainian criminal/prison argot.
Ukrainian slang/jargon dictionaries explicitly gloss "rooster" (in the criminal/prison register) as a **passive homosexual man**—a highly stigmatized label associated with the lowest-status group in that hierarchy.

Ukr Zhargon +3

2) "Colored/painted" adds "made-up / dressed up," i.e., feminized presentation.
In ordinary English "painted" can mean **having makeup applied**, and "to paint (the face)" can mean **to apply make-up**. Vocabulary.com +2
So "colored/painted" intensifies the insult into an image of **effeminate passive homosexual men wearing dress and makeup**—and that is why "colored roosters" can be approximated as **"colorfully dressed sissy gays"** (again, as a slur, not a neutral description).

Net meaning of the comment

So, in context, @mvkovalenko is saying the Swiss authorities are **"effeminate passive homosexual men wearing dress and makeup"** (a prison-argot, homophobic put-down), **in contrast to** Neidhart, whom he frames as a **"warrior."** Ukr Zhargon +3

Sources

B+ Wegen Kopfschuss und Kriegsgefangenen

Bundesanwaltschaft eröffnet Kriegsverbrechen-Verfahren gegen Jona Neidhart

Hat der Schweizer Ukraine-Söldner Jona Neidhart an der Front Kriegsverbrechen begangen? Dieser Frage geht jetzt neu die Bundesanwaltschaft nach. Sie hat das laufende Verfahren von der Militärjustiz übernommen – mit weitreichenden Konsequenzen.

Publiziert: 18.12.2025 um 21:43 Uhr | Aktualisiert: 19.12.2025 um 08:23 Uhr

Die Bundesanwaltschaft hat ein Verfahren gegen den Schweizer Ukraine-Söldner Jona Neidhart (38) eröffnet.

https://www.blick.ch/ausland/wegen-kopfschuss-und-kriegsgefangenen-bundesanwaltschaft-eroeffnet-kriegsverbrechen-verfahren-gegen-jona-neidhart-id21531533.html

watson 3° DE | FR

Schweiz › International › Jona Neidhart: Schweizer Ukraine-Kämpfer packt im

«Ich schoss dem Russen in den Kopf»: Schweizer Ukraine-Kämpfer Neidhart vor Militärrichter

Der 38-jährige Zürcher Jona Neidhart diente im Ukrainekrieg. Vor dem Untersuchungsrichter der Militärjustiz gesteht er, wie er in Konflikt mit dem Kriegsvölkerrecht geraten ist. Das Videoprotokoll.

https://www.watson.ch/schweiz/international/894414842-jona-neidhart-schweizer-ukraine-kaempfer-packt-im-verhoer-aus

Aargauer Zeitung Anmelden Regio

PODCAST «HINTER DER SCHLAGZEILE»

Zwischen Moral und Militärjustiz: Der Fall Jona Neidhart

Ein Schweizer zieht freiwillig in den Ukrainekrieg – und wird nun selbst zum Straffall. Seine Aussagen werfen Grundsatzfragen zur Neutralität und zum Kriegsvölkerrecht auf.

Der Fall Jona Neidhart sorgt schweizweit für Kontroversen. Der 38-jährige Zürcher reiste zweimal in die Ukraine, schloss sich der Internationalen Legion an und kämpfte in der 3. Sturmbrigade an der Front in der Ukraine. Nun ermittelt die Schweizer Militärjustiz gegen ihn – wegen fremdem Militärdienst. Möglicherweise folgt auch ein Verfahren wegen Verstössen gegen das Kriegsvölkerrecht. Ein ungewöhnlicher Fall, der Fragen zur Schweizer Neutralität, zu moralischer Verantwortung und zum Umgang mit freiwilligen Kriegsteilnehmern aufwirft.

https://www.aargauerzeitung.ch/schweiz/jona-neidhart-freiwilliger-im-ukrainekrieg-und-militaerjustiz-ld.4089713

SECO
Public Figures and Media Representatives

Dear Ambassador Plüss,

In the previous report, on page 7, there is a photograph of Prof. Kovalenko of ETH Zurich holding a placard during a Ukrainian rally in Switzerland. The placard depicts a soldier firing a Javelin anti-tank missile and bears a call to donate to the Ukrainian Armed Forces: "Correct way to express deep concerns: savelife.in.ua". The website savelife.in.ua belongs to the "Come Back Alive" foundation, which describes itself as follows: "Come Back Alive is a charitable foundation that comprehensively equips the Defense Forces of Ukraine with everything from vehicles to grenade launchers…".
https://savelife.in.ua/en/about-foundation-en/

This foundation appears to publish transparent donation data, including the donor's name, the donated amount, and the currency. Since the data can be filtered by currency, it is possible to identify persons who appear to have made contributions in Swiss francs. This gives reason to suppose that at least some of these donations may have been transferred from Swiss bank accounts.

One notable example is Andrii Sharshak, identified as Director on Finance at Philip Morris International. From October 2019 until September 2023, he resided in Lausanne while serving as Senior Strategy Manager Director at Philip Morris, and appears to have donated approximately CHF 100,000 to the foundation (**see PDF-3, p. 1**).

Another interesting case is a single donation of approximately CHF 30,000 by Olena Guta. According to the CRI Group report to creditors concerning the fraudulent bankruptcy of the Ukrainian company Mriya Agro Holding Ltd., which benefited members of the Guta family and deprived investors of more than CHF 1 billion through the diversion of liquidity to offshore companies, Olena Guta is listed as a member of the Guta family residing in Engelberg (**see PDF-3, p. 2-3**). She is identified as the wife of Andriy Guta, the former executive director of the company and son of its founder, Mykola Guta, who is likewise reported to reside in Engelberg. OCCRP has reported that Andriy Guta played a central role in orchestrating the collapse of Mriya Agro Holding. It is further reported that, although creditors laid charges against the whole Guta family, including Olena Guta, as well as against eight Cypriot companies involved in the scheme, no member of the Guta family has yet been charged. Since the collapse of Mriya, the Gutas have continued to live in Switzerland. Requests to the Swiss authorities for extradition in connection with EU arrest warrants and an Interpol Red Notice have remained pending. What makes this situation particularly remarkable is that persons implicated in a fraud of such magnitude nevertheless appear to have secured for themselves the benefit of the protections and procedural guarantees of the Swiss legal order, while at the same time engaging in conduct potentially incompatible with the laws and regulations of the very country that afforded them that protection.

These examples appear not to be isolated cases, but rather illustrative of a broader pattern. In this connection, it would appear that one comparatively straightforward way of identifying similar violations of export control would be to obtain information on outgoing financial transactions from Switzerland made in favor of Ukrainian foundations that openly engage in the procurement of military equipment or arms-related materiel. Financial institutions operating in Switzerland are themselves required to comply with the applicable legal framework and therefore may possess information capable of clarifying whether such transactions took place and through which channels they were executed.

I would therefore be grateful if SECO could consider the above examples, and the broader issue they illustrate, as relevant to its assessment.

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Seite 1

https://www.linkedin.com/in/andrii-sharshak-a0122549

Experience

Philip Morris International
16 yrs 6 mos

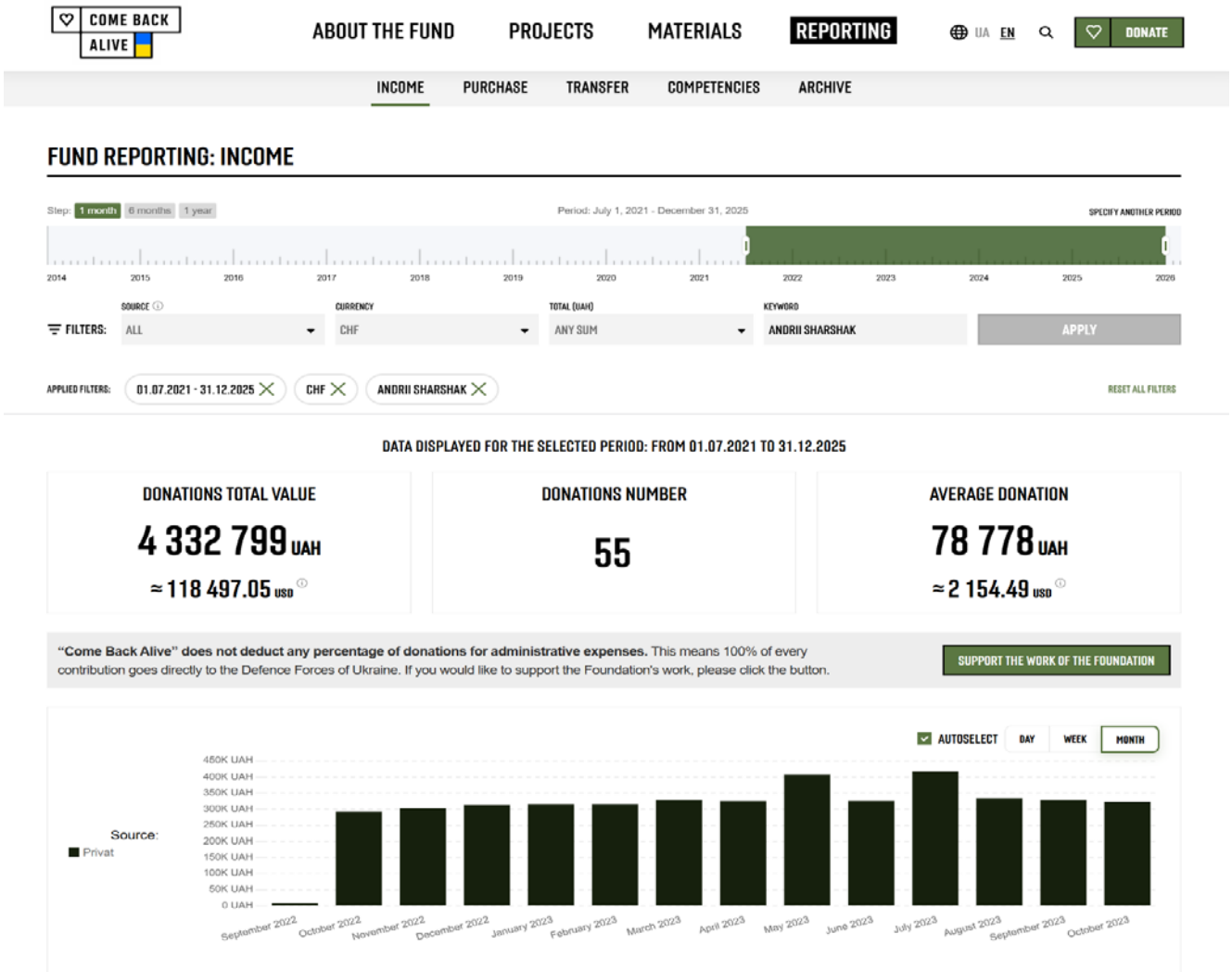
Director Finance
Full-time
Oct 2024 - Present · 1 yr 5 mos
Sweden · On-site

Leading Finance team for Nordics cluster

Director Strategy and Program Delivery
Full-time
Oct 2023 - Sep 2024 · 1 yr
Dubai, United Arab Emirates · On-site

Management of long-term profitability of portfolio of product
Production and logistics cost optimization...

Senior Strategy Manager
Oct 2019 - Sep 2023 · 4 yrs
Lausanne Area, Switzerland



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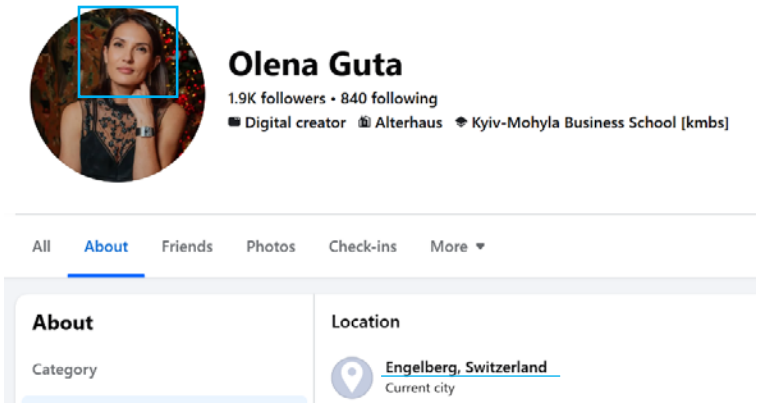
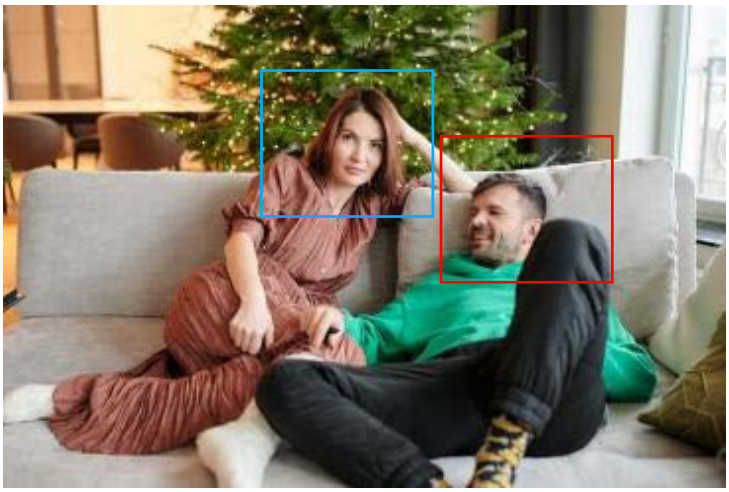


https://www.facebook.com/olena.guta/directory_personal_details



https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=4954190484654402

CRI GROUP

2. Klavdiya Guta, from 11 Oberbergstrasse, 6390 Engelberg, Switzerland
3. Mykola Guta, from Ziegelhuttenstrasse 7A,6060 Sarnen, Switzerland
4. Andriy Guta, from Stockistrasse 16, 6390 Engelberg, Switzerland
5. Volodymyr Shkira, from 8A Berezhanska St, Pidhorodnia village, Ternopil district, Ternopil region, Ukraine
6. Victoria Guta, from Ziegelhuttenstrasse 7A,6060 Sarnen, Switzerland
7. Olena Guta, from Stockistrasse 16, 6390 Engelberg, Switzerland

https://www.crigroup.com.cy/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Report-to-Creditors-170419-160420.pdf

OCCRP Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project

Legal Remedies

On behalf of the Mriya creditors, the liquidators sued members of the Guta family in 2018, demanding more than $100 million in compensation.

As well as immediate Guta family members, the liquidators are suing the wives of Andriy and Mykola Guta. They have also laid charges against the eight Cypriot companies involved in the scam, their parent companies in the BVI, and former managers of Mriya, as well as two Cypriot administrative service providers and a Cypriot law firm.

https://www.occrp.org/en/project/suisse-secrets/credit-suisse-account-played-role-in-scheme-that-destroyed-ukrainian-agriculture-firm

Not just Mriya: Andrey Guta switched to real estate after the bankruptcy of the largest agricultural holding

The bankruptcy of Mriya, one of Ukraine's most well-known and successful agricultural enterprises, is often linked in the media to a money laundering scheme. Those involved in this case may also be involved in other questionable transactions, this time involving real estate.

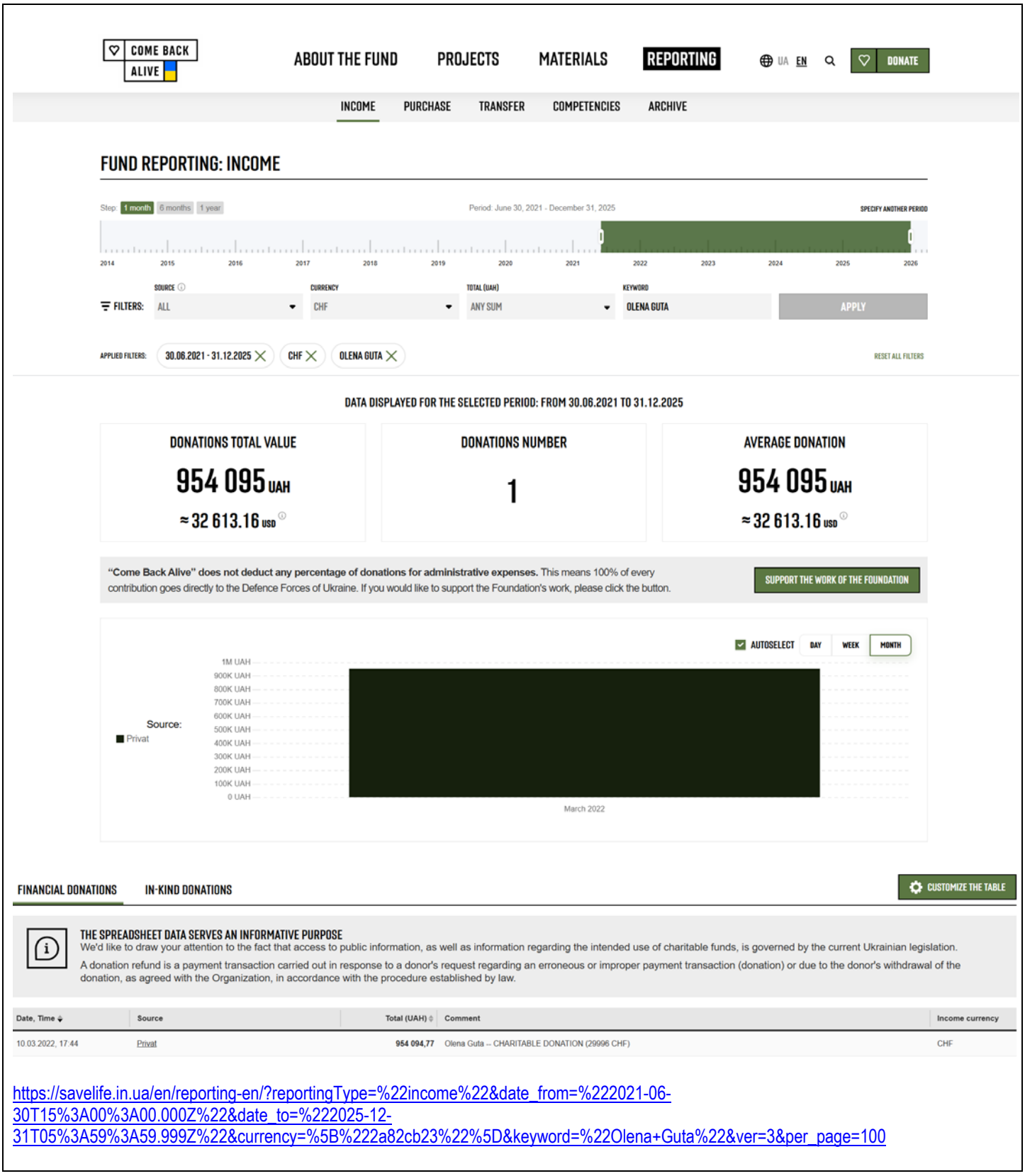
Read in Ukrainian

June 24, 2022, 5:50 PM Share this post: Author: Vitaly Voychuk

https://comments.ua/digest/ne-tolko-mriya-andrey-guta-posle-bankrotstva-krupneyshego-agroholdinga-pereklyuchilsya-na-nedvizhimost-699685.html

How the Mriya agricultural holding went bankrupt

As a reminder, the company founded by Ivan Guta in 2002 collapsed twelve years later, and its creditors, including IFC , Alfa Bank, Credit Agricole , Deutsche Bank DBU , Erste , and FUIB, lost assets totaling approximately $1.3 billion. Some believe that Ivan Guta's youngest son, Andriy, played a key role in this. In 2008, he was appointed executive director of Mriya, assuming full strategic and operational management of the company. After some time, the company, which was a success on paper, went public, where it managed to attract major investors. However, the money received from investors was siphoned off through several (eight in particular) offshore companies in the British Virgin Islands. Members of the Guta family were behind these companies. According to some reports, the total value of such transactions was approximately $220 million.



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